

Summary of the 2022 Water Quality Monitoring Program for Columbia Lake

**Columbia Lake Stewardship Society
January 29, 2023**

Executive Summary

The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society (CLSS) began monitoring the water quality of Columbia Lake on April 20, 2014. Monitoring has continued annually while the lake is ice-free. In 2022 the first water quality monitoring event on the lake took place in late May and the last monitoring event in late August. Monitoring included:

- approximately bi-weekly monitoring of selected water quality indicator parameters and approximately monthly sampling of water for chemical analysis,
- preparing a profile from fourteen locations along the lake for chloride concentrations, and
- measurement of the water quality of Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the small creek that drains from Canal Flats.

The CLSS water quality monitoring program is administered, conducted, and interpreted largely by volunteers under the overall direction of our Program Coordinator Ms. Leah Downey. The 2022 water quality program involved many volunteers who had participated in previous years and some volunteers new to the program. The 2022 monitoring program was enhanced by assistance received from a summer student made available to the program by a grant received from the Canada Summer Jobs program.

Funding for the program was provided by:

- Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund,
- Columbia Basin Trust,
- British Columbia Hydro - Fresh Water Conservation Program,
- Regional District of East Kootenay,
- Larrat Consulting,
- Hoodoo Mountain Resort,
- Spirits Reach Community Association,
- Columbia Ridge Community Association, and
- Columere Park Community Association.

The monitoring program carried out over the past eight years on Columbia Lake has shown that the lake water is suitable for consumption as drinking water, preservation of aquatic life and recreational purposes. The trend in concentrations of turbidity that had been observed in previous years was different in 2022.

Columbia Lake contains different concentrations of chloride than the other four neighboring lakes monitored each year by the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment (BCMOE). Different concentrations of chloride are of concern because there are no natural soils or rocks that can contribute chloride to surface water or groundwater draining into the lake.

CLSS intends to proceed in 2023 with a similar monitoring program to that undertaken in 2022.

The program will include:

1. The “Regular” program of bi-weekly measurements of temperature, lake depth, Secchi depths, turbidity, specific conductance, pH and dissolved oxygen at the four locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4,
2. Pending funding, this program will be expanded to two more sites, one at the mouth of Columbia Lake and one north of the golf course in Fairmont,
3. Chemical analyses during the regular program in late May and mid-July for total and dissolved phosphorous, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total nitrate, iron and manganese, alkalinity, hardness, and chloride,
4. Monthly monitoring of the four creeks (Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the creek draining from Canal Flats) for temperature turbidity, specific conductance, pH, and dissolved oxygen, and
5. Twice annual (spring and fall) analyses of the creek waters for nitrate, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total and dissolved phosphorous, iron and manganese, alkalinity, hardness, and chloride.
6. In 2023 CLSS will continue to develop and implement its CABIN monitoring program of stream(s) entering Columbia Lake.

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WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM SUMMARY For 2022

1. Introduction

Columbia Lake, located in the East Kootenay region of British Columbia between the community of Fairmont Hot Springs and the Village of Canal Flats, is the headwater of the Columbia River drainage system. Because Columbia Lake is a headwater lake, the quality of water draining from the lake potentially influences the water quality received downstream.

Columbia Lake is part of the Columbia Wetlands system. These wetlands extend from the south end of Columbia Lake near the Village of Canal Flats through Kinbasket Lake north of the community of Donald. Columbia Lake drains into the Columbia River at the north end of the lake. The river then drains into Lake Windermere through a series of wetlands and from Lake Windermere continues into the Columbia Wetlands north of the town of Invermere. North of Donald and just beyond the Mica Dam, the Columbia River turns south and drains through the Arrow Lakes system to exit Canada south of Trail, BC.

Participating in response to concerns about future development along the lake and the consequent potential for impact on the quality of the lake's water, the Columbia Lake Management Plan was prepared for the Regional District of East Kootenay and the Village of Canal Flats in 2021. The Columbia Lake Management Plan has been used to prepare this report.

The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society (CLSS) began monitoring the lake's water quality on April 20, 2014 and has continued the monitoring program while the lake is ice-free every year through to the month of September. For the 2022 program on Columbia Lake, water quality monitoring began on [May 10, 2022](#) and ended on [August 28, 2022](#).

This summary of the water quality monitoring program:

- describes the 2022 water quality monitoring program,
- summarizes the water quality monitoring results,
- compares the water quality of Columbia Lake to nearby lakes as monitored and reported by BCMOE, and
- provides suggestions to improve the monitoring program.

2.0 Monitoring program

Sections 2.1 through 2.4 describe:

- the purpose of the program and contributions of volunteers to the program during 2022,
- the monitoring program conducted during 2022,
- water quality objectives established by CLSS for the lake, and
- the QA/QC program undertaken by CLSS.

CLSS monitors both the water quality of Columbia Lake and the quantity of surface water entering and leaving the lake. The quantity of water flowing into and out of Columbia Lake is reported separately. Initially, the water quality monitoring program of Columbia Lake was developed to respond to recommendations contained in the Columbia Lake Management Strategy (Urban Systems, 1997) that indicated a water quality and water level monitoring program should be implemented. In 2014, four water quality monitoring stations were established on the lake. However, since 2014, the program has undergone several changes as more is learned about the lake and funds are available for the monitoring program. Chronologically, these changes are summarized in Appendix A-2.

2.1 Purpose and Acknowledgements

The purpose of the water quality monitoring program conducted by CLSS is to provide baseline water quality information against which the impacts of current and future activities on the lake and in the surrounding lands that drain into the lake can be identified. This activity helps to satisfy the CLSS mission statement:

‘We are working to preserve the ecological health and water supply of Columbia Lake for present and future generations through scientific investigation, collaboration and outreach.’

The CLSS water quality program is, for the most part, administered, implemented and interpreted by volunteers. In 2022, the following volunteers contributed to the water quality monitoring program:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • Gina Fryer and Cesar Fuertes | - participation in lake monitoring events |
| • Ed Gillmor | - monitoring in late May |
| • Garry Gray | - monitoring in August |
| • Dave and Donna Rae | - assistance with on-the-lake training |
| • Pat Silver | - overall program administration and accounting |
| • Barb and Kevin Stromquist | - monitoring in June and July |
| • Tom Symington | - assistance with report preparation |
| • Bill Thompson | - assistance with report preparation |
| • Tom Dance and Nancy Wilson | - on the lake monitoring, and compilation, graphing, interpretation and reporting of the monitoring results. |

For the 2022 monitoring program, CLSS received a grant from the Canada Summer Jobs program to hire a summer student to assist with the water quality and water quantity monitoring programs and with some of the educational opportunities the society offers. Our summer student Lucas Fuertes participated in the program from May through September of 2022. He has subsequently returned to the University of British Columbia to attend his third year of undergraduate studies in geomorphology.

In the spring of 2021, CLSS retained the services of Ms. Leah Downey as Program Coordinator with responsibility to co-ordinate the water quantity and quality monitoring programs and the education program within the local communities. Leah continued with the program until September, 2022. Caily Craig took over the program coordinator role in October of 2022.

The program receives funding from the following agencies:

- Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund,
- Columbia Basin Trust,
- British Columbia Hydro - Fresh Water Conservation Program,
- Regional District of East Kootenay,
- Laratt Consulting,
- Columere Marina,
- HooDoo Mountain Resort,
- Spirits Reach Community Association,
- Columbia Ridge Community Association, and
- Columere Park Community Association.

Advice on the program was also provided by the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK), Suzanne Bayley of the Columbia Wetlands Society Partnership (CWSP); and Rick Nordin and Dave Schindler of the BC Lake Stewardship Society.

The participation of these volunteers, individuals and agencies is gratefully acknowledged.

2.2 The Monitoring Program Undertaken During 2022

In 2021, the monitoring program on Columbia Lake undertaken by CLSS involved:

- the “regular” monitoring program comprising approximately bi-weekly measurements of three types of information at the four locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4) along the lake shown on Figure 1:
 - Observations about cloud cover, water surface disturbance (waves), and air temperature.
 - Measurements of:

- the depth of water at each sampling locations,
- the depth of clear water using the Secchi disk,
- water temperature,
- turbidity,
- specific conductance,
- pH,
- dissolved oxygen, and
- total and dissolved phosphorous, Fe, Mn, hardness, and chloride concentrations on three sets of water samples from the lake to help evaluate causes for turbidity increases during the summer months (growth of aquatic vegetation or disturbed bottom sediment);

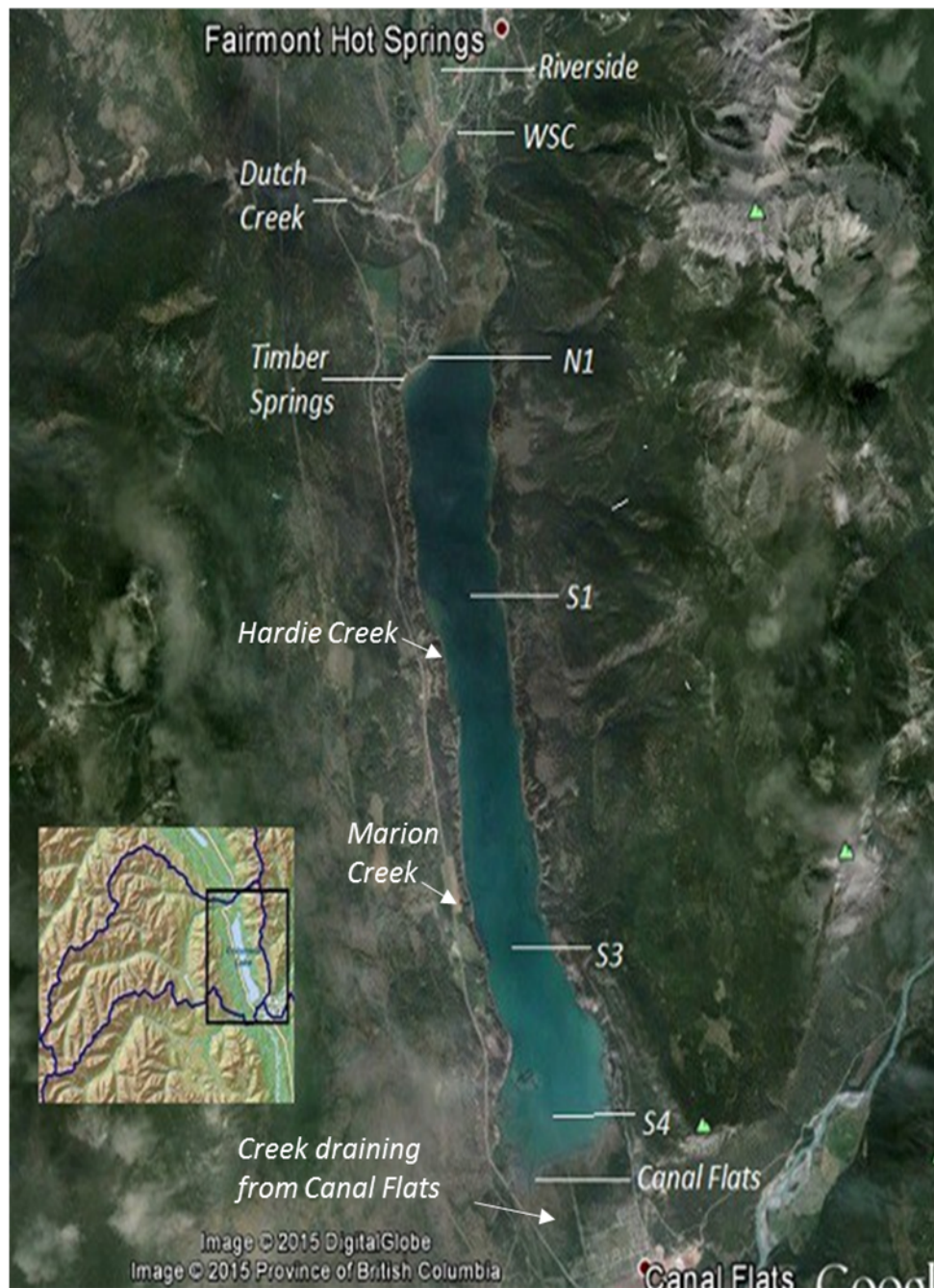
and

- Four measurements of temperature, specific conductance, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and pH on
 - Dutch Creek on the northwest side of the bridge over highway 93;
 - Hardie Creek at the outfall to the lake on the Spirits Reach property;
 - Marion Creek at the outfall to the lake within the provincial picnic area; and
 - A small creek draining north from Canal Flats on the pathway (Figure 1).

The four regular monitoring location (Figure 1) are located at:

<u>Station location</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Easting</u>
N1	N50.28769	W115.87126
S1	N50.253929	W115.86256
S3	N50.20107	W115.84820
S4	N50.17533	W115.83442

Figure 1 – Monitoring Locations



Appendix A-1 provides information on how each of the measured parameters contributes to our understanding of the water quality of Columbia Lake. Dissolved oxygen was measured using a hand-held meter previously calibrated for dissolved oxygen concentrations. Acquisition of the dissolved oxygen meter was a recommendation made in the 2016 water quality report. Purchase of the equipment was made possible by the grants provided to CLSS by the funding agencies and a monetary contribution by two of our volunteers.

As much as lake conditions allowed, water temperature and specific conductance were measured at both “shallow” and “deep” depths. Shallow refers to measurements in the upper 0.5 metres of the lake (an arm’s reach below the water surface for practical purposes) while deep refers to measurements made about 0.5 metres from the lake bottom as measured using the Secchi disk. The deep and shallow measurements began in 2016 but were not routinely collected in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. This information revealed that the lake had no noticeable differences in parameters between the deep and shallow depths.

In 2022, the regular monitoring program began on May 27 and ended on August 28. Measurements were made as weather permitted on seven occasions at approximately biweekly intervals with water samples collected for chemical analyses on May 27, July 20 and August 28. Caro Analytical of Kelowna provided the analytical services. The spreadsheet in Appendix B provides the observations, measurements and chemical analyses collected during all seven years of the monitoring program. The results are described in section 3.1.

Monitoring of Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the stream flowing from Canal Flats occurred on May 10, June 22, July 12 and August 17. The monitoring results are described in section 3.2.

In addition, on July 20, 2022, CLSS collected 14 samples along the north south profile of the lake for analysis of the concentrations of chloride. This event was similar to the along the lake profiles obtained from 2020 but discontinued in 2021 due to funding constraints.

2.3 Water Quality Standards

To identify potentially harmful changes in water quality, collected quantitative water quality information is compared to water quality guidelines established by regulatory agencies.

The Columbia Lake Management Plan prepared by the Regional District of East Kootenay and the Village of Canal Flats provides a set of public health standards to judge how the quality of the lake water compares to guidelines for the protection of human health. The water quality standards used for comparison are those published by the Government of Canada (2017) in the Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality. However, these human health guidelines may not be sufficient for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. CLSS notes that several of the total metal concentration guidelines as published by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment for the protection of aquatic life, are considerably lower than the guidelines for human health protection. In particular, the arsenic, molybdenum, selenium, uranium, and zinc guidelines tabulated in Table 1 are for the protection of aquatic health.

CLSS also notes that the criteria applied to evaluate water quality conditions on Lake Windermere by Lake Windermere Ambassadors also uses dissolved oxygen and phosphorous concentrations and temperature ranges.

The Province of British Columbia has established a variety of guidelines (WQGs) or criteria useful for judging the quality of water used for drinking water and for protection of aquatic life. These guidelines are for broad application on a province-wide basis and do not consider local land uses or ambient lake conditions and thus may be over- or under- protective of a lake's conditions and development pressures.

On a site-by-site basis the province allows WQGs may be established by:

- Direct adoption of WQGs for each monitoring parameter,
- Establishing the upper limit of background concentration for each monitoring parameter, or
- Deriving a site-specific Water Quality Objective based upon data collected at the site.

CLSS does not have the resources to establish guidelines for Columbia Lake using the upper limit of background concentration or site-specific data and therefore has combined the human health guidelines with the CCME guidelines for protection of aquatic life with those used by Lake Windermere Ambassadors as a comparative measure of the water quality objectives for Columbia Lake.

Table 1 provides these combined criteria with the highlighted values identifying the concentrations or ranges applied by CLSS to Columbia Lake. This table also shows the range in concentrations measured by the annual monitoring program undertaken by BCMOE and the data collected by CLSS. In general, the measured water quality parameters on Columbia Lake are considerably less than the criteria. But there are several occasions when the concentrations of pH, dissolved oxygen and turbidity exceed these guidelines.

Table 1 Comparative Water Quality Standards for Columbia Lake								
	Parameter	Measurement Units	Health Canada Drinking Water	CCME ² for Freshwater Aquatic Life	used by Lake Windmere ambassadors	Range in Columbia Lake ³	Measured by CLSS ⁴	
	PH		6.5 to 8.5	6.5 to 9.0		8.1 to 8.46	7.3 to 10	
	Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	--	--	>5 mg/L instantaneous minimum > 8mg/L 30-day mean	8.08 to 10.8		
	Specific Conductance	uS/cm	700	--		290 to 345	209 to 459	
	Phosphorous			--	0.010 mg/L (maximum)			
	Temperature				<20°C in June (average) < 25°C in July (average) <23°C in August (average)			
	Turbidity	NTU	1	--		0.49 to 0.93	0.5 to 4.3	
	Chloride ⁵	mg/L	--	120		4.36 to 6.44		
	Sulphate ⁵	mg/L		--		22.4 to 32		
	Aluminum total	ug/L	200	--		1.35 to 6.18		
	Arsenic total	ug/L	30	5		0.0663 to 1.26		
	Boron Total	ug/L	500	1500		5.5 to 7.2		
	Chromium total	ug/L	50	--		<0.1		
	Copper total	ug/L	1000	--		0.131 to 0.423		
	Iron total	ug/L	300	300		2.2 to 18.8		
	Manganese total	ug/L	50	430		4.2 to 15.3		
	Molybendum total	ug/L	250	73		0.49 to 0.63		
	Sodium total	mg/L	200	--		4.89 to 6.79		
	Antimony total	ug/L	10	--		0.058 to 0.085		
	Selenium total	ug/L	10	1		0.041 to 0.059		
	Uranium total	ug/L	100	15		0.661 to 1.06		
	Zinc total	ug/L	5000	7		0.47 to 1.31		
	Notes:							
	1		Health Canada Limit as published in the Columbia Lake Management Plan (draft version of November, 2021) Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines , Government of Canada, 2017					
	2		Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment					
	3		Reported by BCMOE for the biannual monitorin program for 2015 through 2021 inclusive					
	4		As measured by the Columbia Lake Stewardship Society for the bi-monthly monitoring Program 2014 through 2021 inclusive					
	5		Parameter included in the list because either it is at a concentration in Columbia Lake noticeably different from neighbouring lakes or it is commonly found in the rock and soil surrounding Columbia Lake.					
			water quality guidelines applied by CLSS to Columbia Lake					

2.4 QA/QC Program

CLSS uses several quality assurance and quality control measures to improve the reliability of the citizen science information collected by our volunteers. The QA/QC program is currently focused on:

- the collection of reliable field information and requires that:
 - each set of volunteers or summer staff is trained in the use of the field equipment by our experienced technical advisors,
 - follows the guidance for equipment calibration prior to each monitoring event, and
 - when the monitoring events occur over a long day the equipment is recalibrated every four hours.
- Field data checked by comparing to the data collected from prior years for any significant differences and, if beyond the limits established by the upper and lower control limits, is confirmed by a repeated monitoring event as soon as practical.

CLSS has a written procedures manual to guide our volunteers and staff in the use of the equipment, water sample collection methods, care, and storage of all samples to maintain sample integrity while being transported to the laboratory for chemical analyses. This manual is reviewed annually and updated as new measuring equipment or monitoring methods are applied to the program.

As funding permits, CLSS would like to use other methods to confirm the reliability of the results of the chemical analysis. Specifically, we intend to collect blank samples for every sampling event, prepare blind duplicate samples and trip blanks for every sampling occasion.

Blank samples are used to determine if the water quality is affected by any sampling procedures or equipment. Currently our understanding of the guidance provided by regulatory agencies is that one blank sample is collected for every sampling event. The blank samples would be prepared using distilled water and contained in a laboratory container. The blank samples would be opened at every monitoring location so that any dust or wind-blown debris from the boat could fall into the sample container and alter the water quality measured.

The duplicate samples would be a replica of a single sample and collected in the same way as the sample submitted for chemical analysis. It is called a blind sample because it is not identified using a sample location identification number as is used for the actual sample so that if the concentrations measured differ between the duplicate and the actual sample the difference can not be corrected by the chemical analyst. Our guidance from regulatory agencies is that a duplicate sample is to be provided for every five samples collected.

Trip blanks are samples prepared using distilled water. The purpose of the trip blank is to determine whether the water quality has been altered during transport from the lake to the chemical laboratory. One trip blank is to be provided in every package of sample container.

For a typical monitoring event CLSS ships only four or five individual samples to the laboratory for analysis. To implement the present program would require an addition of three samples. Unfortunately, CLSS does not have the financial resources to implement this portion of the QA/QC program but as we expand the

lake and stream monitoring program to collecting more than 10 samples per monitoring-event we add these QA/QC samples to the program.

3.0 Water Quality Monitoring Results

Respectively, Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 summarize:

- The monitoring results obtained at the four monitoring locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4) along the lake,
- The along the lake profiles prepared by CLSS (although only one set of analyses for chloride was collected by CLSS in 2022), and
- The monitoring results obtained for Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the creek draining from Canal Flats to the lake.

3.1 Annual Monitoring Program

The 2022 annual monitoring program is the ninth year CLSS has monitored the water quality of Columbia Lake using the indicator parameters of temperature, turbidity, specific conductance, pH and dissolved oxygen.

To illustrate the differences in the concentrations of these parameters from month to month, CLSS compiled the information collected between 2014 and 2020 into a statistical summary for each of the four monitoring locations along the lake. That compilation involved a month-by-month calculation of the mean, the standard deviation and the expected maximum and minimum concentrations. The expected maximum and minimum concentrations were calculated as the mean plus and minus three times the standard deviation and are labelled as upper and lower control limits (UCL and LCL respectively) on graphs of the indicator parameters. Those statistical calculations are provided in Appendix E. Concentrations that exceed either the expected maximum or minimum values identify water quality information that is beyond the normal or expected range and may suggest further assessment of the lake's water quality should be considered. These exceedances are mentioned in the text of this report.

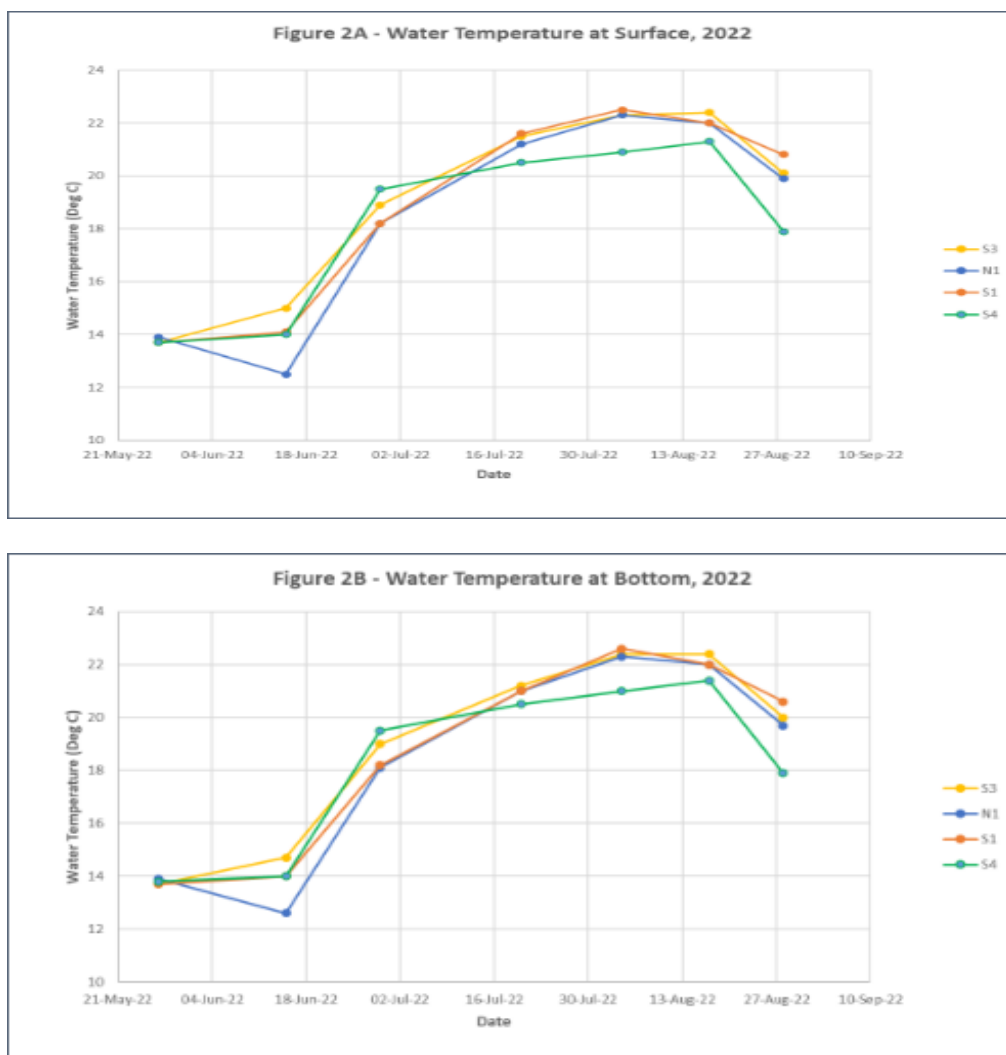
Sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.7 describe the variation in concentration for temperature, Secchi disk depth measurements, turbidity, specific conductance, pH, dissolved oxygen and total and dissolved phosphorous. In 2020, CLSS added nitrate, iron and manganese, hardness, alkalinity and chloride to the water quality analyses.

3.1.1 Temperature

Lake temperature is an important ecological condition because, at higher temperatures, the quantity of dissolved oxygen available for fish and aquatic invertebrates declines and creates a potential environmental stressor. (We understand from conversations at the BC Lake Keepers workshop held at the

Columbia Ridge Community Centre in May of 2016 that temperatures greater than 20°C can dramatically stress fish so that fish kills may occur). Further, higher water temperatures increase the rate of degradation of organic matter and creates potentially cloudy, murky, or odorous water. The degradation process also consumes dissolved oxygen from the lake water, further increasing the stress on fish and aquatic invertebrates. Figures 2A and 2B plot the temperatures measured during 2022 at the surface and bottom depths.

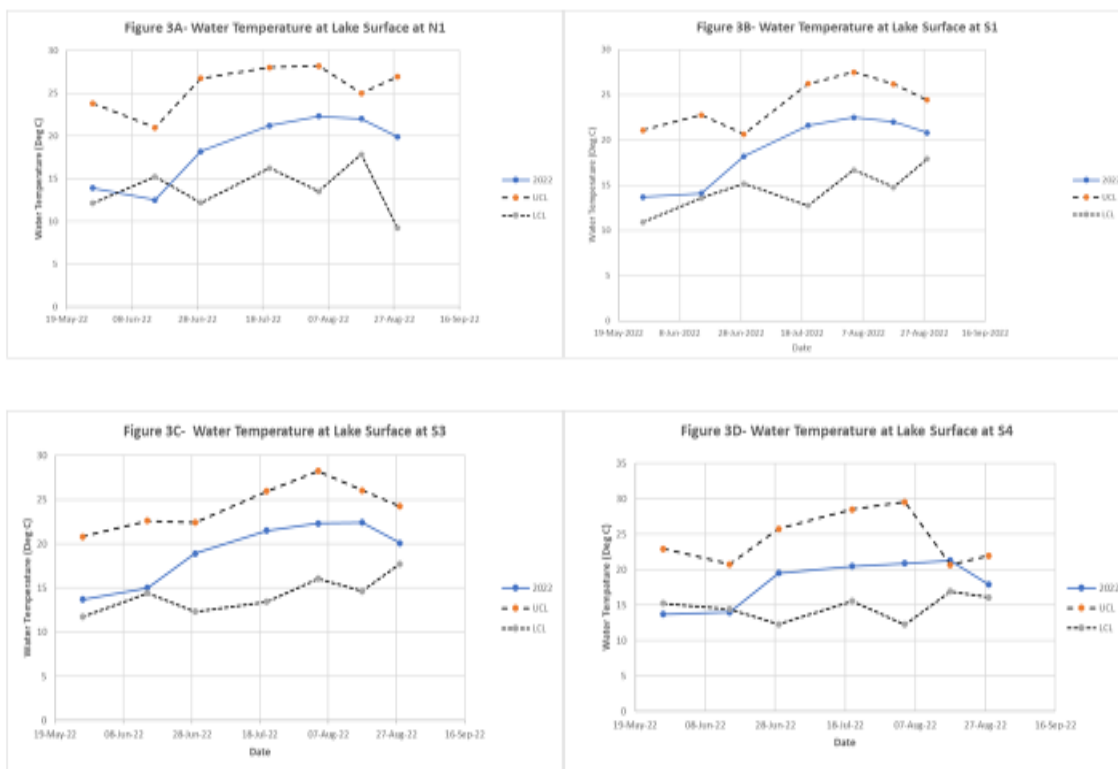
Figure 2— Lake Water Temperature 2022



The minimum temperature measurements in 2022 of approximately 14⁰ C were measured during the last monitoring event in May and early June monitoring events. The maximum temperatures (greater than 20⁰ C) were measured between the middle of July and the last monitoring event in August. There are no noticeable differences (greater than 2⁰C) in temperature during any monitoring event with the location on the lake. Comparing Figures 2a and 2b illustrates there is no noticeable difference in water temperature with depth at all monitoring locations.

Figure 3 compares the temperature measurements along the lake in 2022 to the upper and lower temperatures measured between 2014 and 2020. In the prior year 2021 temperatures exceeding the UCL were measured at all locations on the lake in early July. However, through 2022 the only exceedance of the upper expected value (UCL) occurred at the south end of the lake (Figure 3D). Also, in 2021 the seasonal decline in water temperature (CLSS annual water quality report for 2021) began in July but in 2022 as Figure 3A,3B,3C and 3D suggest this seasonal decline did not begin until early August.

Figure 3 – Lake Surface Water Temperatures - Year to Year Comparison



3.1.2 Secchi Disk Measurements

Secchi disk measurements are used to qualitatively determine the clarity of the water. Water clarity is an important consideration for lake water quality since it improves the aesthetic appeal of the lake to recreational users and increases the chance of successful predation by birds, terrestrial animals and fish. Clear water also promotes photosynthetic processes needed to maintain the ecological health of the lake.

The measurement involves dropping a marked disk into the lake water and determining when the symbols on the disk are not visible at the lake's surface. Monitoring the difference between the Secchi depth and lake depth is used to determine changes in the water's clarity.

During the 2022 monitoring events, the lake's surface was frequently too turbulent to allow accurate measurements to be made. A plot of this information has not been provided.

As the collected measurements indicated (Appendix B) the only locations where the Secchi disk was less than the bottom depth occurred at S1, the deepest sampling location on the lake. At this location, the Secchi disk depth and lake bottom measurements generally differed by less than one meter. The Secchi disk measurements made in late May and June of 2017 at S1 differed by more than 1.5 meters.

3.1.3 Turbidity

Turbidity measurements are another means of measuring the clarity (or, in contrast, the cloudiness or murkiness) of the water but, unlike the Secchi disk, these measurements are made in terms of NTUs (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) - a quantifiable measure of turbidity. The turbidity of the lake water in the open water zone is influenced mostly by the growth of phytoplankton and the quantity of suspended sediments contained in the lake water. In the open water zone, the main cause of turbidity increase is the growth of phytoplankton. Closer to the shoreline however, suspended sediments are introduced by surface water draining into the lake, shoreline erosion by wave action and disturbance of bottom sediments by wave action and recreational activities. Organic matter that decays in the water as it warms up is also a significant contributor to the lake's murkiness and consumes oxygen as the organic material decays. Decaying organic water consumes oxygen that potentially limits the oxygen available to support aquatic life. The measured turbidity may also be influenced by some chemical reactions that create insoluble precipitates (carbonates mostly) but due to the low mineral content of the Columbia Lake water they are not as great a contributor to the turbidity as the suspended mineral sediments and organic debris.

Turbidity measurements made during the 2022 monitoring events are plotted on Figure 4. The plot demonstrates that the greatest concentrations of turbidity were measured during the early summer at location S4 in the south end of the lake. Unexpected values for turbidity concentrations also occurred in the late spring at locations S1 and N1. At all locations, the turbidity measurements declined throughout the summer months.

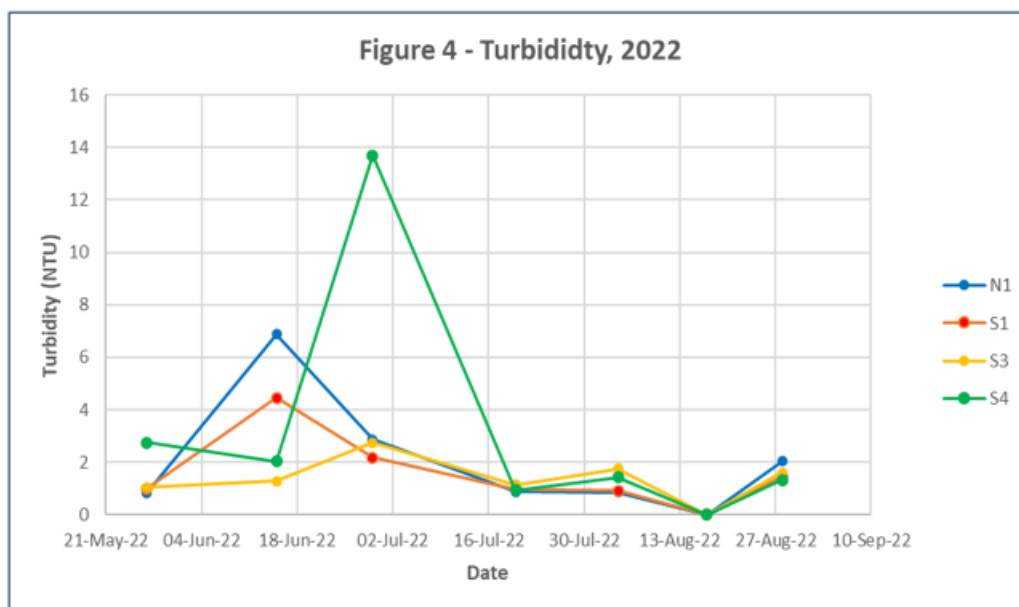
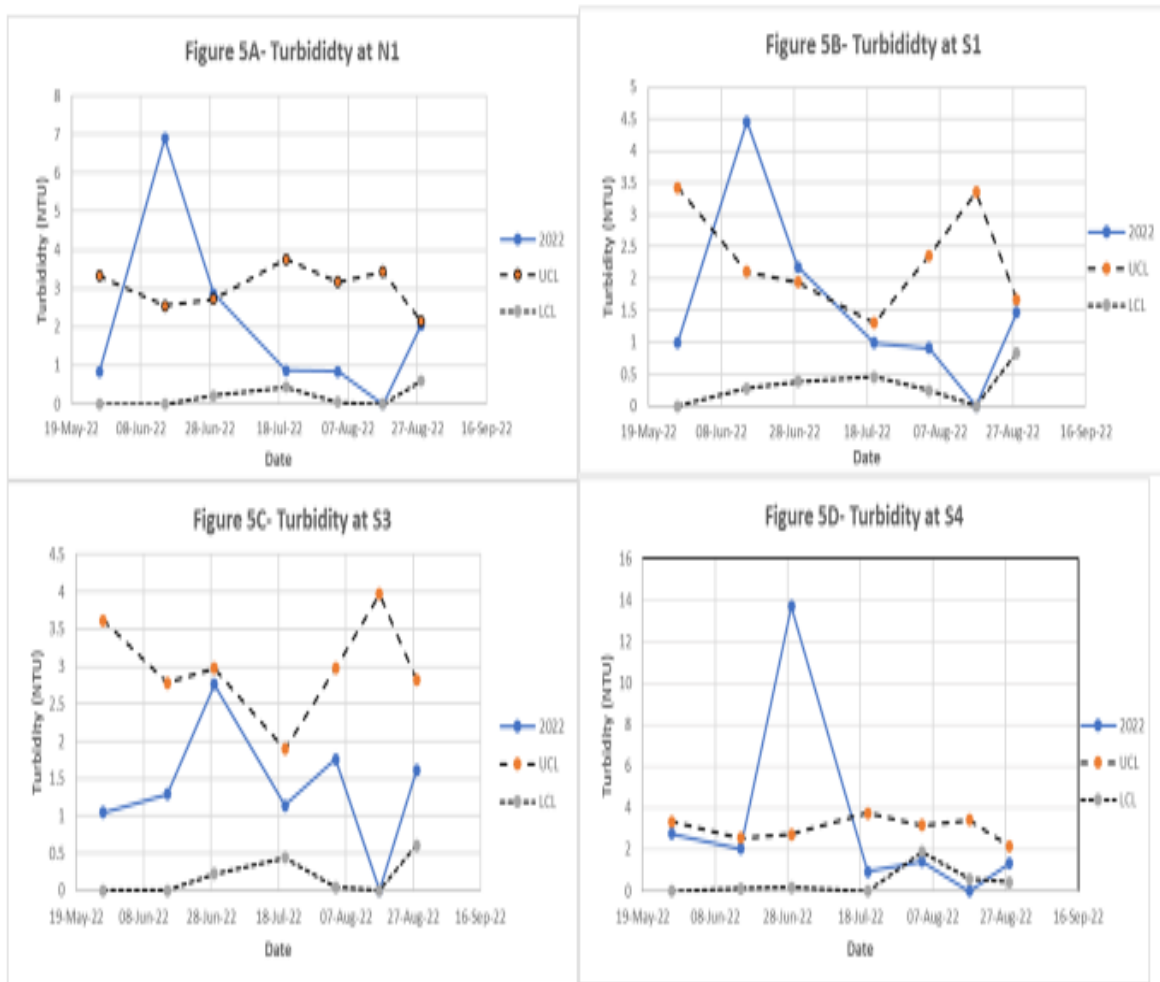


Figure 5 compares the turbidity measurements at each monitoring location on the lake to the control limits established from the range in concentration measured over the previous years. The four graphs (Figures 5 A, B, C and D) show that the trend in turbidity measured over the summer months is comparable to that measured in previous years. The trend is that turbidity concentrations decline from the early spring to early summer, increase over the summer months and decline in the late summer.

At all monitoring locations during the June monitoring events with the exception of S3, the turbidity concentrations measured exceeded the upper control limit.

Figure 5 – Turbidity – Year to Year Comparison



3.1.4 Specific Conductance

Specific conductance measures the electrical conductivity of the lake water; a measure of the quantity of dissolved salt the lake water contains. These dissolved salts consist of both mineral salts dissolved from particulate sediments in the lake water or that are carried into the lake by groundwater inflows and surface water drainage. A portion of the specific conductance of the lake water is also due to soluble organic matters that create weak acids as they dissolve (like vinegars) but usually this contribution is considered minor. Specific conductance is a temperature dependent measurement with higher values measured in warmer water. Most probes correct automatically for the temperature such that the values reported here should not be influenced by temperature changes from month to month.

Figure 6 plots the values measured for the conductivity during 2022. Figures 6A and 6B show there is no appreciable difference in specific conductance concentrations between the surface and bottom of the lake. Figures 6A and B also show that the greatest concentrations for specific conductance are measured in the south end of the lake at S3 and S4.

Both the small creek draining from the vicinity of Canal Flats (Section 3.3) and Marion Creek drain into the southern end of the lake. A contribution to the greater concentration of specific conductance in this area of the lake may be associated with drainage from these streams. However, as reported in 2018 by CLSS volunteers, this section of the lake is also understood to be associated with groundwater inflow from beneath Canal Flats. Small sand volcanoes were observed from kayaks at several locations across this end of the lake and along the small creek that drains into the lake by CLSS volunteers that suggest groundwater inflow is occurring across the south end of the lake. Therefore, groundwater discharge to the lake at this south end may also be a cause of the greater specific conductance measurements.

The water quality objective stated in the Columbia Lake management plan for specific conductivity is 700uS/cm as established by Health Canada (Table 1). The concentrations for specific conductivity for Columbia are less than this concentration by a factor of three or four.

Figure 6 – Specific Conductivity– 2022

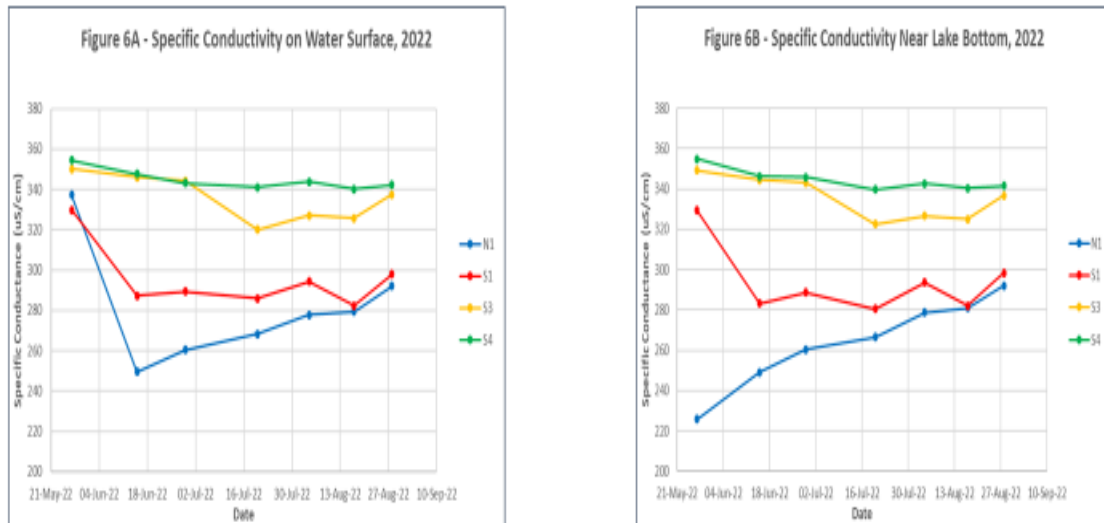
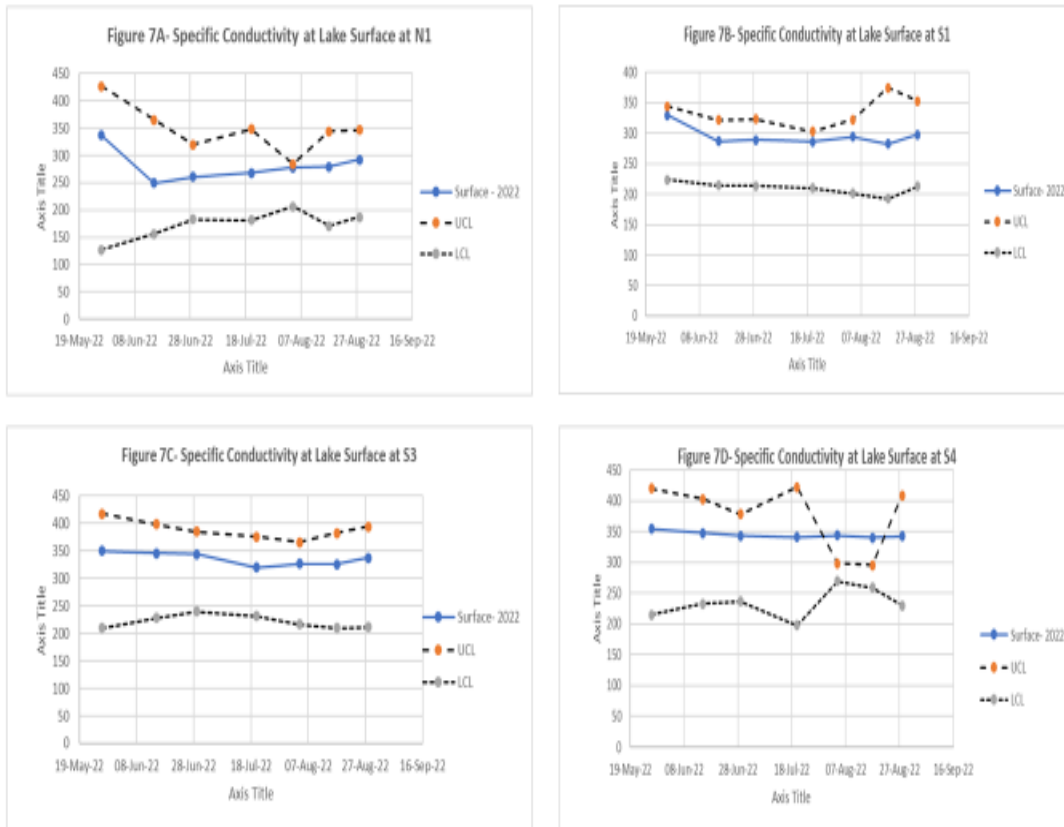


Figure 7 compares the concentrations for Specific Conductance measured in 2022 to the expected range estimated from between the years 2014 and 2020. These figures demonstrate that the 2022 specific conductance measurements are near the upper range of the expected specific conductance. At one location in the south end of the lake (Figure 7D), the measured specific conductance exceeded the expected value.

Figure 7 – Specific Conductivity – Year to Year Comparison



3.1.5 Potential of hydrogen (pH)

Potential of hydrogen (pH) is a measure of the acidity (pH values less than 7) or alkalinity (pH values greater than 7) of water. In water that is too acidic (pH less than 6.5) it is difficult for aquatic organisms to incorporate carbonates into their developing skeletons and water that is too alkaline (pH greater than 8.5) affects the bioavailability of phosphorous and carbonate to aquatic plants also needed for skeletal growth. Water suitable for people to drink has a pH between 6.5 and 8.5 pH units. Table 1 provides a range in pH values of between 6.5 and 9 as published by CCME that is suitable for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

Figure 8 plots the pH values measured at each monitoring location during 2022. Generally, the pH values fall within a narrow range from 7.9 to 8.8 pH units and are similar between the four monitoring locations.

Exceptions to this general observation are the pH values measured in late May and mid-June and the values measured after August of 2022 at N1, S1 and S3.

These measured pH values are all within the range established by CCME of 6.5 to 9 for the protection of freshwater aquatic life (Table 1).

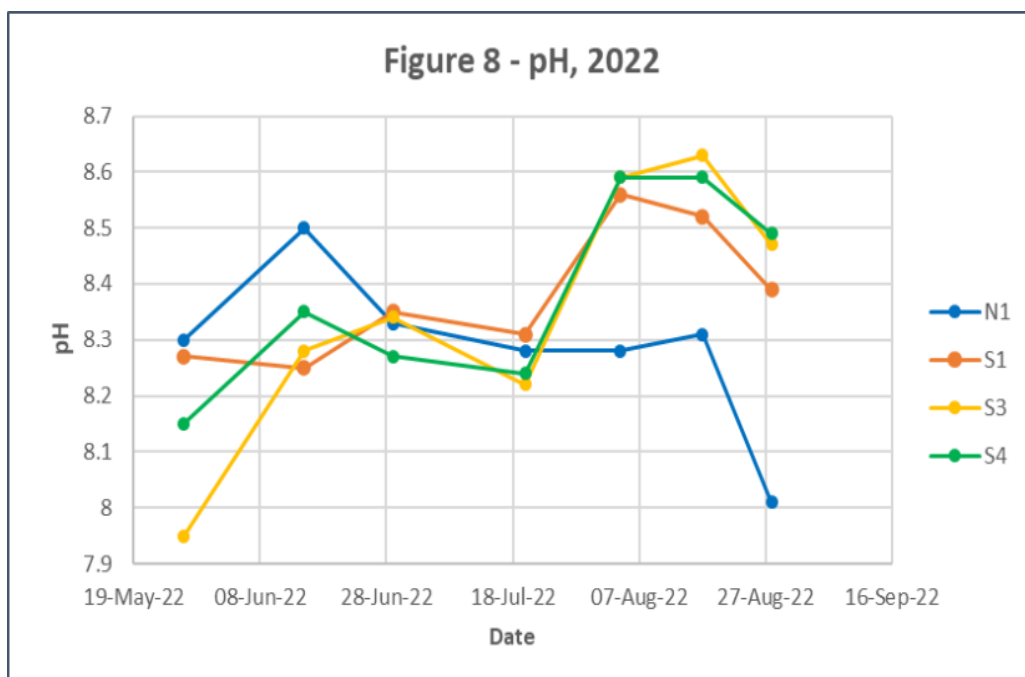
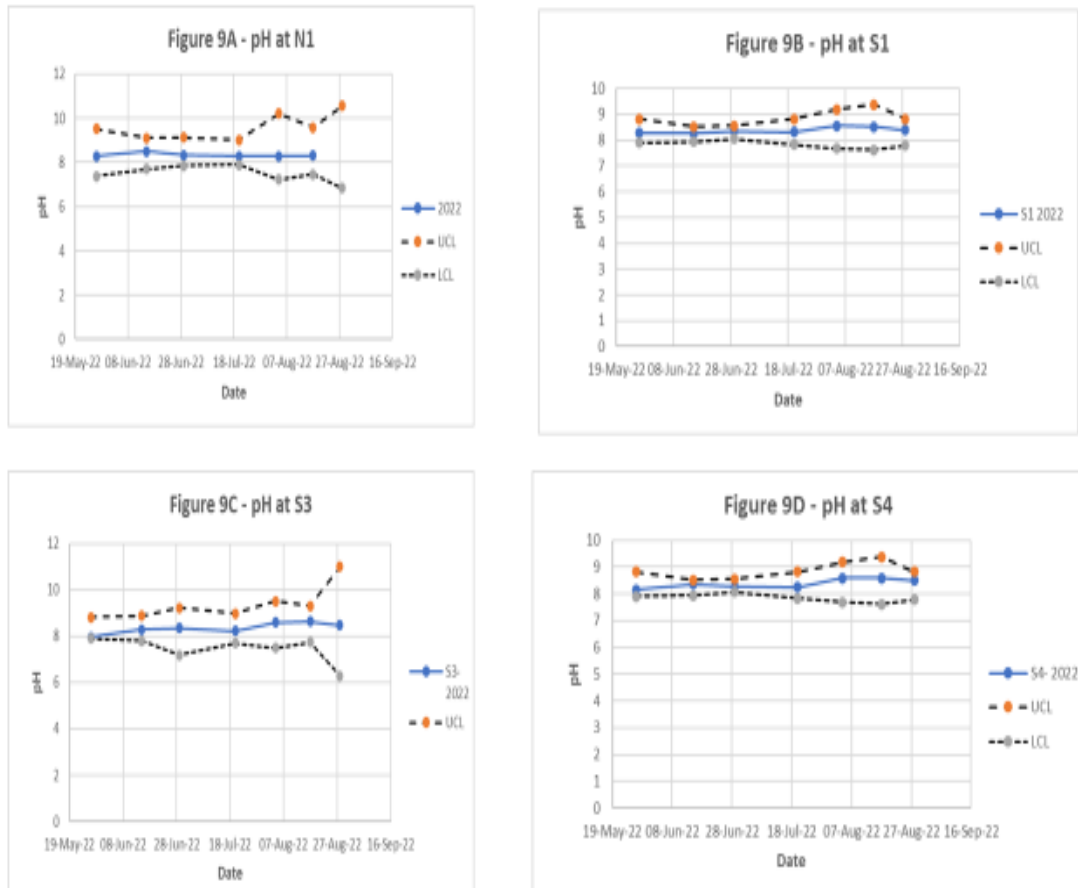


Figure 9 plots the year over year measurements of pH at each of the monitoring locations on the lake. Visually, the plots of the calculated UCL and LCL's suggest that a general increase in pH is observed between April and September. However, in 2022 there was no observable change in pH over the monitoring period. This finding is like that reported in 2021. Also, there were no measurements beyond the expected range through the monitoring events in 2022.

Figure 9 – PH – Year to Year Comparison



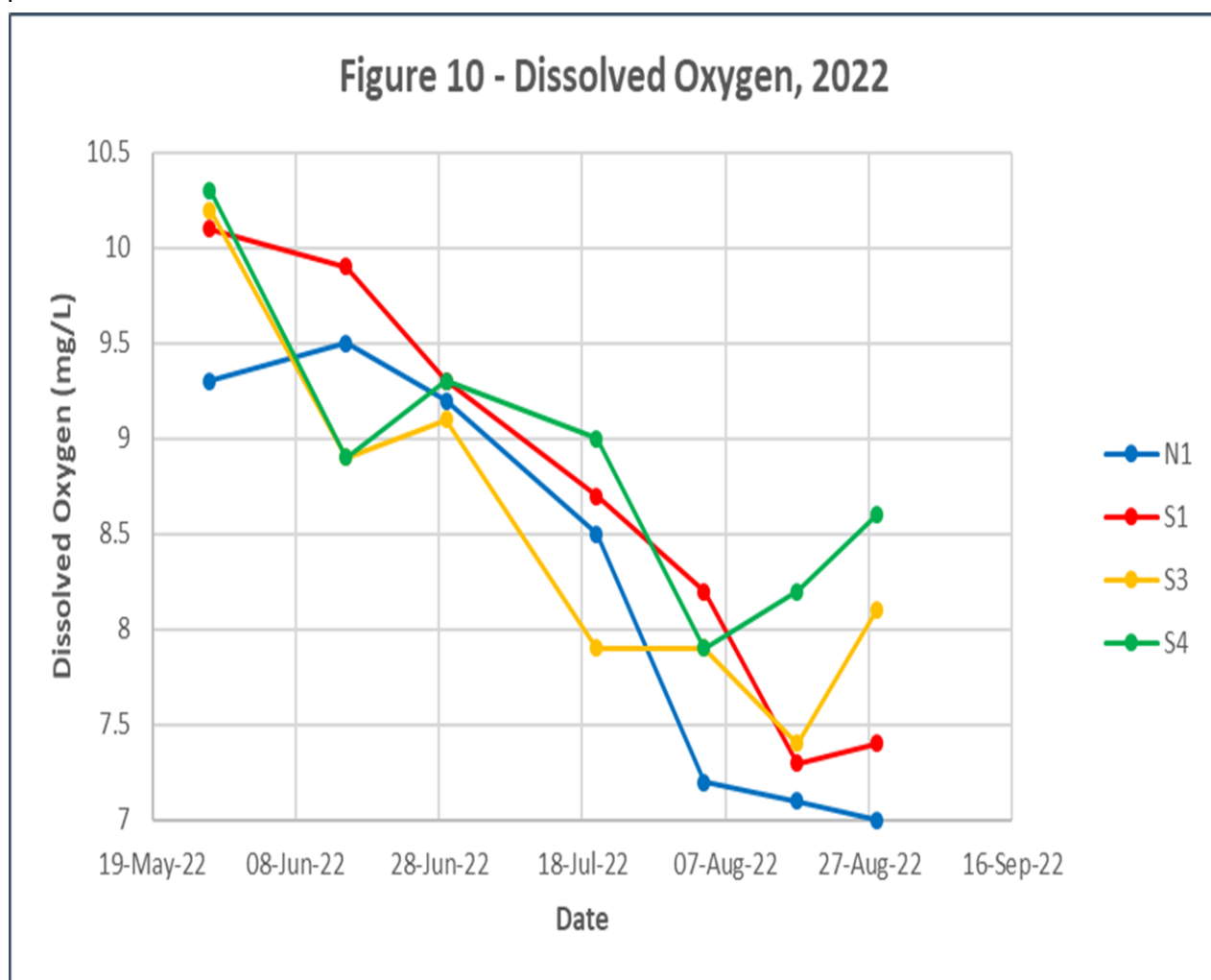
3.1.6 Dissolved Oxygen

Water containing dissolved oxygen and carbon dioxide, and which receives sunlight is essential for photosynthetic processes in the lake to occur and allows aquatic and amphibious flora and fauna to thrive. Both carbon dioxide and oxygen are produced by photosynthesis. The only mechanical source of dissolved oxygen is precipitation falling directly on the lake or introduced as snow melt. Lake surface disturbances that create turbulence and waves produced by winds also introduce oxygen to the lake. Some dissolved oxygen is provided to the lake by the inflow of surface drainage, but groundwater inflow will not contribute any noticeable amounts of dissolved oxygen.

The saturation level of oxygen in water is between 8 and 14 mg/L depending upon the temperature. Oxygen is more readily soluble in cooler water than in warmer waters (i.e., 8 mg/L at water temperatures of 25°C and 14 mg/L at water temperatures of 1°C).

Figure 10 plots the dissolved oxygen concentrations measured in 2022 at the four monitoring locations along the lake. This graph illustrates that for most of the spring and summer, the dissolved oxygen concentrations were greater than 7 mg/L and less than 11 mg/L. Also, the greatest concentrations of dissolved oxygen were measured in the early spring when the lake water was colder. The maximum concentration of dissolved oxygen measured (approximately 10.3 mg/L) occurred during the late May monitoring event. The lowest dissolved oxygen concentrations of about 7 mg/L was measured in late August. Comparison to the water quality (Table 1) suggests that dissolved oxygen concentrations greater than 5 mg/L are needed to protect freshwater aquatic life.

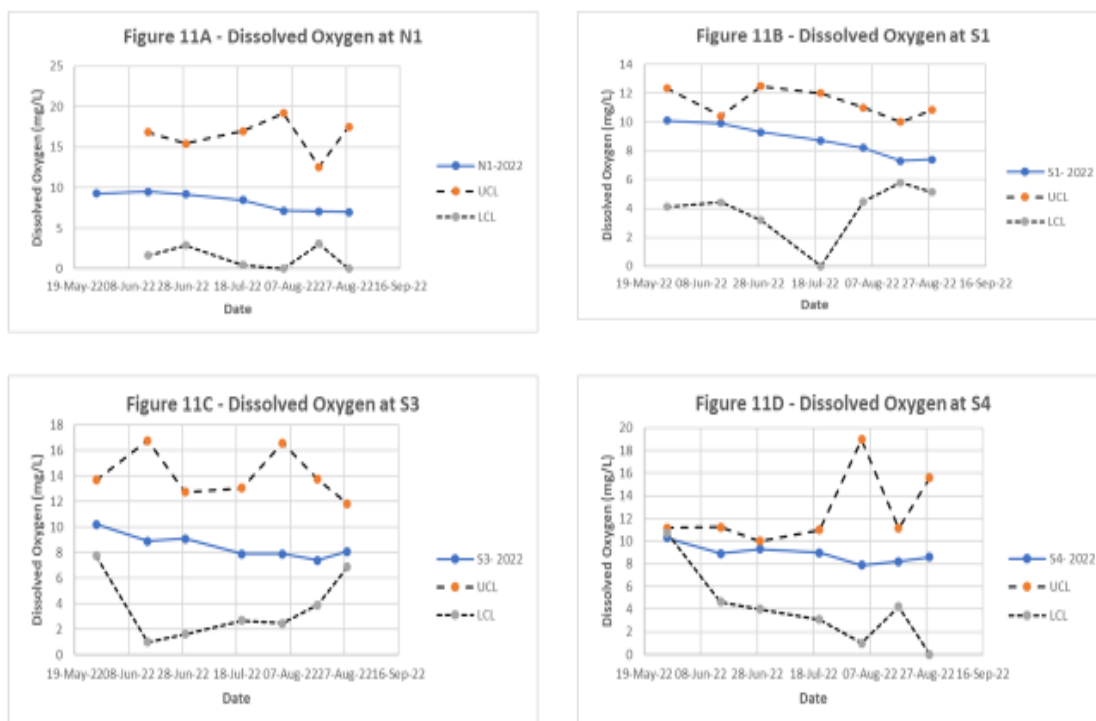
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In general, the dissolved oxygen concentrations declined from the greater concentrations measured in May until the middle of August. The concentrations increased slightly until the last monitoring event in August. This pattern of dissolved oxygen concentrations follows the pattern of lake surface water temperatures.

Figure 11 compares the year over year measurements of dissolved oxygen. As the graphs on Figures 11 A, B, C, and D suggest, the concentrations of dissolved oxygen measured in 2022, are within the expected ranges measured over the previous eight years.

Figure 11 – Dissolved Oxygen – Year to Year Comparison



3.1.7 Total and Dissolved Phosphorous

Phosphorous is a nutrient essential for plant growth. Aquatic plants and particularly microscopic plants are the principal feed stock of phytoplankton which are consumed by small fish and invertebrates and in turn eventually become the feedstock of larger fish and aquatic/amphibious vertebrates. Therefore, healthy lake water must contain phosphorous. However, it is a nutrient that is usually in short supply in freshwater systems. Phosphorous is provided naturally by drainage of water courses that contain dissolved mineral salts and organic materials into the lake. Some phosphorous may also be introduced by wastewater discharge and drainage of organic wastes from agricultural lands. However, too much phosphorous will cause algal blooms, deterioration of oxygen concentrations and stagnation of the lake water, an ecological condition not favorable to a healthy lake.

The measure of Total Phosphorous CLSS measures includes both particulate and dissolved phosphorous. Dissolved phosphorous occurs in both inorganic and organic forms. The inorganic form is derived from the dissolution of minerals in sediments while the organic form is derived from decayed organics. Dissolved inorganic phosphorous is the form required for plant growth while animals (including phytoplankton) can use both inorganic and organic forms. This information has been obtained from SEAWA, the Southeast Alberta Watershed Alliance (2014).

The analyses conducted to date do not distinguish between inorganic and organic phosphorous and perhaps this distinction needs to be investigated in future years as more data on the proportions of total and dissolved phosphorous become available.

The total phosphorous concentrations measured by CLSS during the three monitoring events on Columbia Lake are plotted on Figure 12. The maximum concentrations measured for 2021 occurred in mid-July, the hottest period of the summer, and are consistent with the findings of prior years. The greatest concentrations occurred at S3 in the spring and mid-summer. The maximum concentration occurred in late summer and was measured at S4, the southernmost monitoring location on the lake.

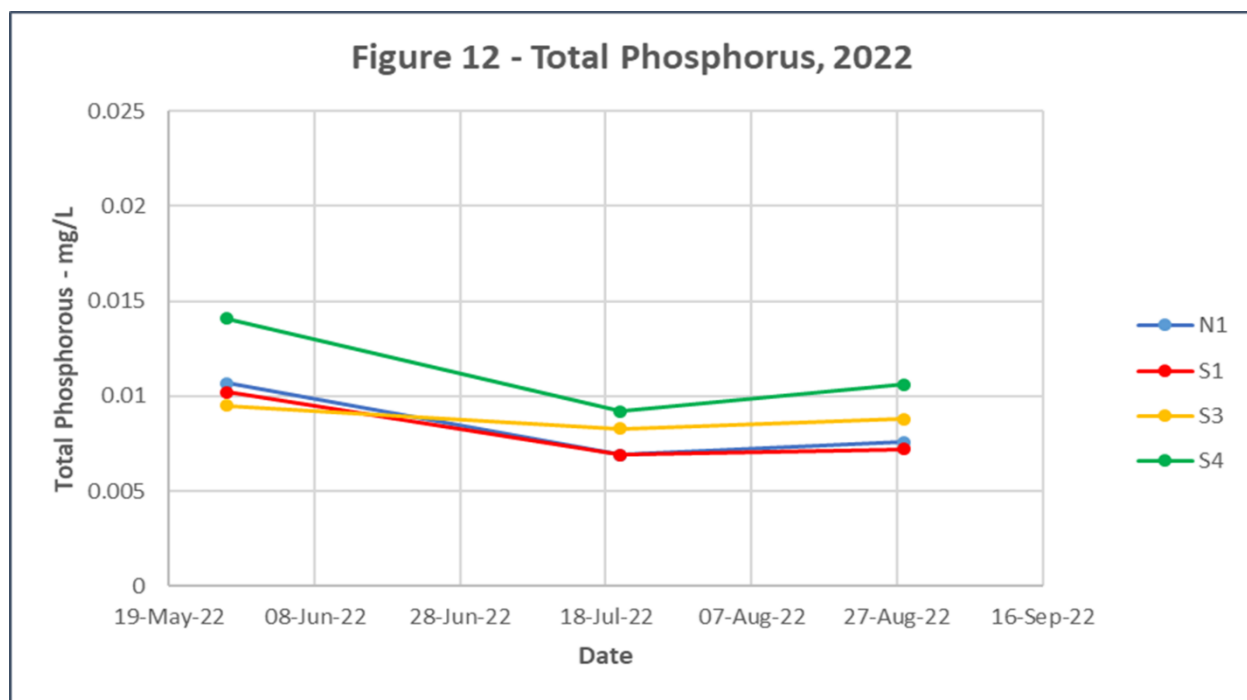


Table 2 contains the total and dissolved concentrations measured in 2022. CLSS understands that the ratio of dissolved phosphorous concentration to total phosphorous concentration may indicate when the phytoplankton growth in the lake is greatest. The growth of phytoplankton is one of the greatest contributors to turbid water and results in murky water. When this ratio is low it means that most of the phosphorous in the water is organic and the phytoplankton content of the water is the greatest. These low ratios occurred in the late spring but generally the total phosphorous concentration was consistent throughout the monitoring period.

Of greater concern, is the comparison of the total phosphorous concentration compared to the concentration used by Lake Windermere Ambassadors of 0.01mg/L (Table 1) to assess water quality. On several occasions during the middle of the summer months the concentration of total phosphorus in Columbia Lake exceeded this maximum value.

CLSS has been collecting dissolved and total phosphorous concentrations since the monitoring program began in 2014. CLSS will be reviewing these data more extensively in 2022.

3.1.8 Additional analyses in 2022

For the 2022 monitoring program CLSS collected and had analyses undertaken for nitrate, iron, manganese, hardness, and chloride. The results of these water quality analyses are in Table 2.

Table 2 - Comparison of Concentrations for Nitrate, Iron, Manganese, Alkalinity, Hardness and Chloride from South to North														
monitoring location			sampling date											
				29-May-19	22-Jul-19	28-May-20	18-Jul-20		10-Jun-21	22-Jul-21	21-Aug-21	27-May-22	20-Jul-22	28-Aug-22
South	Location S4	Total Phosphorous	mg/L			0.00860	0.01150		0.0091	0.0116	0.00790	0.0141	0.0092	0.0106
		Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L			0.004	0.009		0.0079	0.0101	0.0069	0.0063	0.0053	<0.005
		nitrate	mg/L			<0.01	<0.01			<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		iron	mg/L			<0.01	0.015			0.029	0.011	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		manganese	mg/L			0.00472	0.0038			0.00522	0.00365	0.00496	0.00101	0.00404
		alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			173	150							
		hardness (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			177	173			188	175	174	174	167
		chloride	mg/L			5.7	5.04			5.83	5.96	6.39	5.97	6.4
	Location S3	Total Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0072	0.0084		0.0106	0.0129	0.0061	0.0095	0.0083	0.0088
		Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0042	0.0064		0.007	0.0119	<0.005	0.0093	<0.005	<0.005
		nitrate	mg/L			<0.01	<0.01			<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		iron	mg/L			0.015	<0.01			0.014	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		manganese	mg/L			0.0038	0.0078			0.0063	0.00433	0.00524	0.0014	0.0052
		alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			150	145							
		hardness (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			173	169			167	167	174	158	161
		chloride	mg/L			5.04	4.74			5.04	5.51	5.97	4.9	6.16
	location - S1 Shallow	Total Phosphorous	mg/L	0.0064	0.0089	0.0082	0.0077		0.0076	0.0127	0.0074	0.0102	0.0069	0.0072
		Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L	0.0022	0.0037	0.0054	0.0065		0.0057	0.0103	0.0054	0.008	<0.005	<0.005
		nitrate	mg/L			<0.01	0.064			<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		iron	mg/L			<0.01	<0.01			0.03	0.013	0.016	<0.01	<0.01
		manganese	mg/L			0.00831	0.0108			0.0172	0.0117	0.0087	0.00277	0.0197
		alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			164	138							
		hardness (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			162	157			154	160	166	138	144
		chloride	mg/L			5.23	4.14			4	4.97	5.32	3.53	4.48
	Location S1 - deep	Total Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0099	0.0106		0.015	0.0136	0.0081		0.007	
		Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0044	0.0066		0.007	0.0127	<0.005		<0.005	
		nitrate	mg/L			<0.01	<0.01			<0.01	<0.01		<0.01	
		iron	mg/L			0.011	0.014			0.022	0.015		<0.01	
		manganese	mg/L			0.00872	0.0149			0.0185	0.0126		0.00293	
		alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			166	138							
		hardness (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			167	153			154	160		140	
		chloride	mg/L			5.32	4.32			4.03	3.64		3.56	
North	Location N1	Total Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0073	0.0082		0.0084	0.0127	0.0074	0.0107	0.0069	0.0076
		Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L			0.0039	0.0056		0.0076	0.0103	0.0058	0.0055	0.0054	<0.005
		nitrate	mg/L			<0.01	<0.01			<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
		iron	mg/L			0.032	0.01			0.019	0.018	0.011	<0.01	0.013
		manganese	mg/L			0.0112	0.0142			0.0231	0.00969	0.0071	0.00215	0.0241
		alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			169	135							
		hardness (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L			160	146			146	153	161	134	141
		chloride	mg/L			4.84	3.67			3.64	4.74	5.67	3.04	4.12

Nitrate is a nutrient necessary for aquatic organisms to thrive and is introduced naturally to the lake as dissolved nitrate in rainfall and snowmelt. But if nitrate concentrations become too great to be assimilated into organisms, it can lead to oxygen consumption and hence eutrophication of lake waters. Nitrate is frequently a component of runoff from agricultural lands and wastewater systems into lakes and is a reliable means of detecting contributions to the lake from these potential sources.

Nitrate concentrations were measured at the onset of the program on April 20, 2014 and continued to be measured until May of 2016. All nitrate concentrations were less than the analytical detection limit. Nitrate concentrations were not measured in 2017, 2018 or 2019. However, we noted that detectable concentrations of nitrate were measured during the stream sampling program conducted in the early autumn of 2019 (Section 3.3). These measurements suggested that nitrate should be reintroduced to the annual sampling program. The results provided in Table 2 show that for 2020, 2021 and 2022 nitrate concentrations are less than the analytical detection limit.

Iron, manganese, and hardness were added to the chemical analysis to aid in determining whether increases in turbidity noted in the lake water over the summer months in 2019 were due to increases in phytoplankton growth or the disturbance of bottom sediments. Bottom sediments were understood to be disturbed due to increased shoreline erosion, sediments from streams draining into the lake, wave action or recreational activity.

Table 2 shows that concentrations of Iron greater than the analytical detection limit in 2022 were measured and N1 in the north end of the lake and the concentrations of both manganese and hardness increased from the south end of the lake to the north end of the lake. All concentrations measured are less than the water quality standards proposed by Table 1.

Chloride was added to the chemical analysis because it was noted in the results of BCMOE's sampling program that Columbia Lake contained greater concentrations of chloride than other neighboring lakes. Furthermore, analysis of water quality in the small creek draining into the lake from Canal Flats showed that it contained chloride concentrations much greater than that measured in the other streams sampled in 2019. CLSS wanted to learn whether chloride concentrations would increase in the lake.

The chloride concentrations in Table 2 show that the greatest concentrations are in the south end of the lake. The concentrations are much lower than any concentration standard that would suggest a water quality concern. Results of the of the water quality analyses for 2022 like the concentrations measured in 2020 and 2021.

3.2 Along the Lake Profile Program

Beginning on July 13 of 2018, CLSS conducted along the lake profiles (south to north) of the water quality indicators, temperature, turbidity, and specific conductance. The program involved monitoring at fourteen locations along the lake within one day as a single "snapshot" of the water quality. The program was initiated because evaluation of the results of the monitoring program at the four locations described in Section 3.1 identified differences in concentrations of the indicator parameters that might occur from the contribution of streams draining into the lake. The results showed that the concentration of turbidity

and specific conductance decreased from south to north; a finding that is contrary to the suspicion that evaporation from the lake's surface over the summer months would cause these concentrations to increase from south to north. The Columbia River at the north end of the lake is the only drainage from the lake.

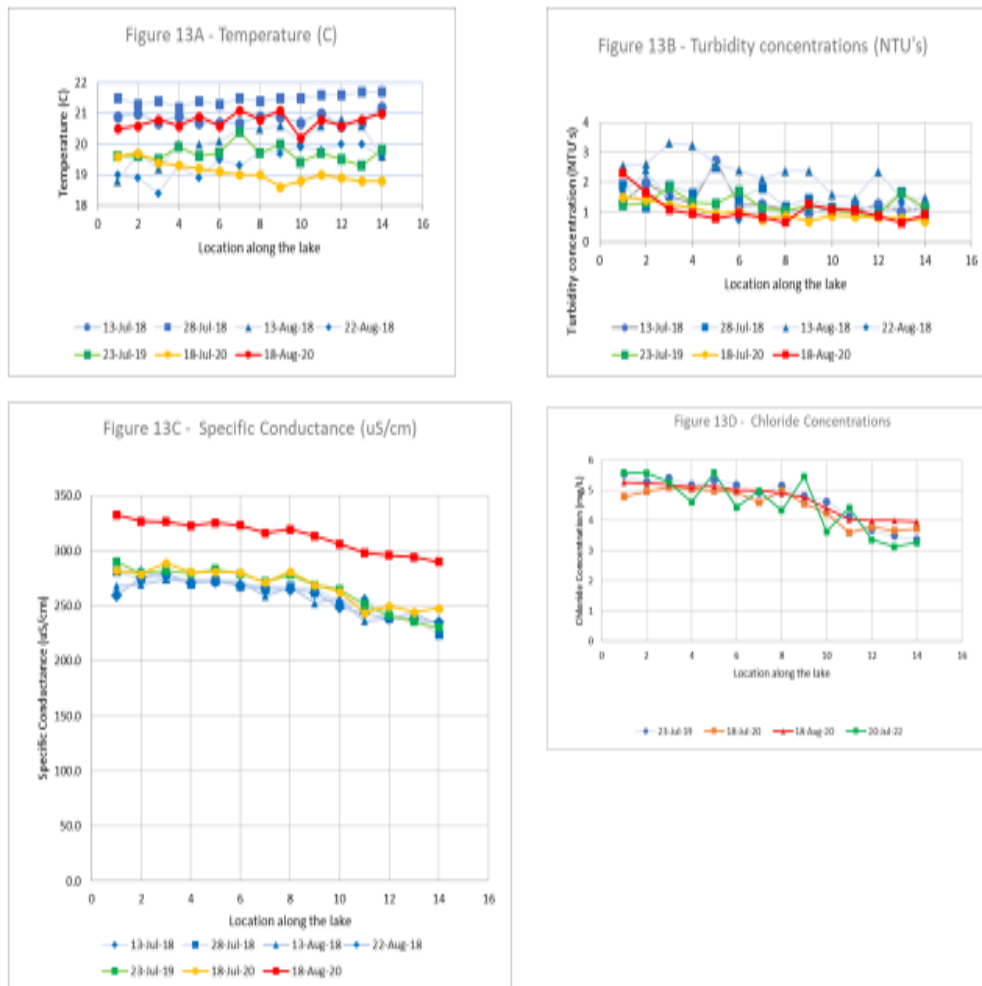
In 2019, chloride was added to the program because CLSS understood that this simple salt would be the most likely contributor to changes in the specific conductance. Subsequently, CLSS received results of BCMOE's monitoring of the lake and discovered that Columbia Lake contained concentration of salt that were noticeably greater than other neighboring lakes.

These "Along the Lake Profiles" are described in Appendix D, are tabulated in Table 3, and plotted on Figure 13.

Table 3 – Temperature, Turbidity, Specific Conductance and Chloride concentrations along Columbia Lake

A) Temperature	Location	Date		2018				2019				2020				2022	
		13-Jul-18	28-Jul-18	13-Aug-18	22-Aug-18	23-Jul-19	18-Jul-20	18-Aug-20	20-Jul-22								
B) Turbidity concentrations (NTU's)	1	20.9	21.5	18.8	19	19.6	19.6	20.5									
	2	21	21.3	19.7	18.9	19.6	19.7	20.6									
	3	20.7	21.4	19.2	18.4	19.5	19.4	20.8									
	4	20.9	21.2	20	19.3	19.9	19.3	20.6									
	5	20.7	21.4	20	18.9	19.6	19.2	20.9									
	6	20.7	21.3	20.1	19.5	19.7	19.1	20.6									
	7	20.7	21.5	20.5	19.3	20.4	19	21.1									
	8	20.9	21.4	20.5	19.7	19.7	19	20.8									
	9	20.9	21.5	20.6	19.7	20	18.6	21.1									
	10	20.7	21.5	20.1	19.9	19.4	18.8	20.2									
	11	21	21.6	20.6	19.8	19.7	19	20.8									
	12	20.6	21.6	20.8	20	19.5	18.9	20.6									
	13	20.7	21.7	20.6	20	19.3	18.8	20.8									
	14	21.2	21.7	19.6	19.6	19.8	18.8	21									
C) Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	1	1.34	1.92	2.55	1.68	1.22	1.51	2.3									
	2	1.98	1.19	2.61	2.34	1.31	1.42	1.66									
	3	1.55	1.89	3.33	1.45	1.82	1.24	1.09									
	4	1.29	1.64	3.23	1.01	1.34	1.15	0.94									
	5	2.72	2.51	2.61	0.87	1.27	0.94	0.79									
	6	1.23	1.48	2.39	0.74	1.69	1.03	0.94									
	7	1.26	1.81	2.11	1.01	1.12	0.74	0.82									
	8	1.09	1.18	2.37	0.93	1.04	0.88	0.66									
	9	0.97	1.45	2.38	1.09	1.22	0.69	1.26									
	10	1.14	1.17	1.59	0.88	1.08	0.88	1.08									
	11	1.04	1.26	1.45	0.89	0.97	0.85	1.06									
	12	1.24	1.03	2.35	0.87	0.91	0.81	0.86									
	13	1.02	1.69	1.47	1.32	1.64	0.8	0.64									
	14	1.18	0.92	1.48	0.83	1.14	0.69	0.92									
D) Chloride Concentrations (mg/L)	1	281.8	281.3	268.2	259.3	290.3	282.1	332.7									
	2	281.8	274.4	269.3	275.6	279.4	279.0	326.8									
	3	275.4	275.8	274.1	279.8	282.3	288.9	326.5									
	4	273.5	270.3	272.7	270.6	279.2	280.5	322.8									
	5	274.2	273.0	272.0	272.2	283.2	281.1	325.3									
	6	269.9	267.9	272.5	268.5	278.8	280.4	323.2									
	7	268.6	264.5	258.6	265.6	272.0	271.4	316.1									
	8	266.7	267.4	266.9	264.6	278.0	281.0	319.5									
	9	266.5	262.0	252.3	262.2	269.1	269.1	313.5									
	10	253.4	251.5	257.2	248.7	265.0	263.2	306.2									
	11	256.9	251.7	236.1	243.5	251.6	243.8	298.1									
	12	241.4	239.3	238.6	238.7	241.4	249.9	296.0									
	13	236.6	237.6	243.1	238.3	235.5	244.6	294.1									
	14	235.7	224.4	232.4	234.8	230.3	247.7	290.1									
E) Chloride Concentrations (mg/L)	1					5.54	4.8	5.28									
	2					5.29	4.96	5.24									
	3					5.4	5.10	5.19									
	4					5.17	5.05	5.1									
	5					5.34	4.99	5.14									
	6					5.17	4.94	5.01									
	7					4.92	4.6	4.98									
	8					5.15	4.98	4.91									
	9					4.81	4.56	4.78									
	10					4.63	4.25	4.41									
	11					4.15	3.6	4.04									
	12					3.7	3.8	4.01									
	13					3.5	3.66	4									
	14					3.38	3.73	3.97									

Figure 13 – Along the Lake Profiles



Funding did not permit data for the north to south profiles to be collected in 2021 so CLSS decided to reproduce the profiles every other year. On July 2022, one south to north profile was prepared for chloride concentrations only. These results (Figure 13) show that some of the chloride concentrations over the central section of the profile in 2022 decreased by one or two mg/L from the concentrations measured in prior years. However, the chloride concentration at the furthest south location (location 1) has not changed. This finding is consistent with the stream measurements of the creek draining from Canal Flats (Section 3.3) that show the chloride concentration from this creek has not changed over the period of monitoring by CLSS.

3.3 Stream sampling program

The stream sampling sites monitored by CLSS in 2022 were as follows:

Dutch Creek – a high rate of turbulent flow, the creek bed was composed largely of boulders that were not stained with iron oxides, and the water was clear. There was no organic growth along the stream sides.

Hardie Creek - steady and turbulent water flow - the creek bed had gravel-sized material with iron and manganese oxide staining (red to black colored coating) on the gravel particles and the water sampled was clear. There was no organic material along the stream sides.

Marion Creek - steady and turbulent water flow - the creek bed contained gravel-sized material that had some staining by iron and manganese oxides and the water sampled was clear. There was some fibrous organic material observed along the stream bed.

Canal Flats Creek - steady water flow (no turbulence) - the creek bed was covered in fine-grained grey clay to silt type materials that were easily disturbed and the water became muddy quickly. The water sampled was clear and the stream banks were covered by marshy grasses.

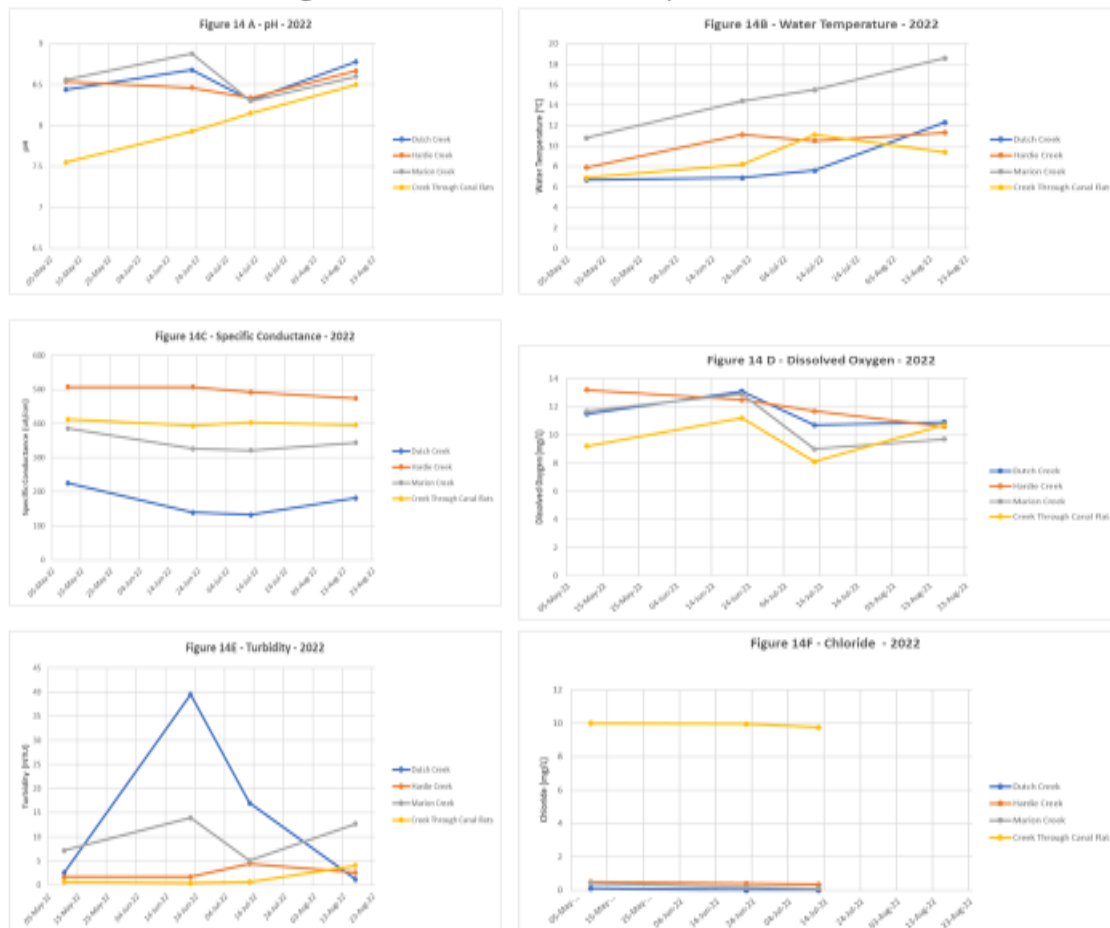
Lansdowne Creek- steady water flow, tree sheltered with the stream bed containing mossy rocks.

CLSS monitored these streams on May 10, June 22, July 12, and August 17. The water quality measurements made on each stream included water temperature, specific conductance (conductivity), dissolved oxygen, pH, and turbidity. Chloride concentrations were measured on three occasions but not on the final sampling event on August 17. Sampling of Lansdowne Creek on the east side of the lake was not undertaken in 2022.

The water quality measurements and analyses made during the stream sampling program are summarized in Table 4 and the results compared on Figure 14.

Table 4 - Comparison of Stream Quality Measurements 2022										January 13, 2023
		Date	Time	Water Temp (°)	Specific Cond. (uS/cm)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	pH	Turbidity (NTU)	Suspended Sediments (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)
A) Dutch Creek		15-Jun-2020	10:00:00 AM	6.3	126.2	11	7.5	20.8		<0.10
		23-Jul-2020	10:00:00 AM	10.3	147.2	10.28	8.4	4.09		
		27-Aug-2020	1:45:00 PM	12	201.5	10.41	8.2	1.01		
		19-Sep-2020	2:25:00 PM	11.9	221	10.5	8.4	0.58		
		17-Jun-2021	12:25:00 PM	7.2	141.7	11.9	7.2	3.52		<0.10
		12-Jul-2021	1:26:00 PM	13.7	163.9	10.2	8.4	7.58		<0.10
		16-Aug-2021	10:05:00 AM	13.1	204.5	10.7	8.38	2.22		<0.10
		10-May-2022	1:56:00 PM	6.7	225.7	11.5	8.44	2.53		0.11
		22-Jun-2022	11:55:00 AM	6.9	139.3	13.1	8.68	39.5		<0.10
		12-Jul-2022	10:15:00 AM	7.6	132.7	10.7	8.31	17		<0.10
		17-Aug-2022	10:57:00 AM	12.3	181.4	10.9	8.78	1.17		
B) Hardie Creek		7-Oct-2019								
		14-Jun-2020		9.2	444.0	10	8.3	2.47		
		23-Jul-2020		11.1	303.8	9.81	8.2	2.85		0.45
		27-Aug-2020	1:00:00 PM	10.5	481.3	10.36	8.3	4.09		0.56
		19-Sep-2020	11:41:00 AM	10	494	10.5	7.9	7.9		
		14-Mar-2021	12:37:00 PM	1.3	543	11.1	8.2	2.34	2.6	0.48
		19-Apr-2021	10:30:00 AM	2.7	537	9.2	8.4	2.25	<2.0	0.52
		17-May-21	1:46:00 PM	12.9	508	10.3	8.8	1.29	3.7	0.4
		17-Jun-21	10:00:00 AM	8.2	244	12	8.5	1.47	<4.0	0.35
		12-Jul-2021	12:58:00 PM	12.6	487	10.6	8.8	3		0.33
		16-Aug-2021	10:57:00 AM	11.4	490	11.7	8.5	3.43		0.31
		10-May-2022	1:12:00 PM	7.9	507	13.2	8.54	1.68		0.48
		22-Jun-2022	11:20:00 AM	11.1	507	12.5	8.46	1.71		0.4
		12-Jul-2022	11:03:00 AM	10.5	492	11.7	8.34	4.43		0.34
		17-Aug-2022	11:42:00 AM	11.3	474	10.6	8.67	2.57		
C) Marion Creek		7-Oct-2019								
		15-Jun-2020		11.9	283.0	9.1	8.4			
		23-Jul-2020		17.6	344.1	8.7	8.4	4.09		0.4
		27-Aug-2020	11:15:00 AM	14.4	354.6	9.82	8	1.56		0.11
		19-Sep-2020	2:20:00 PM	13.7	366	10.1	8.3	6.03		
		14-Mar-21	1:03:00 PM	1.3	362.3	10.2	8.1	2.24	<6.7	
		19-Apr-21	9:30:00 AM	5.7	383.3	8.5	8.4	5.61	9.2	
		17-May-21	2:13:00 PM	18	373.5	9.8	8.3	12	15	
		17-Jun-21	10:37:00 AM	14.6	343.5	9.3	8.6	5.93	2	
		12-Jul-21	12:26:00 PM	21	243.1	9.4	8.6	1.24		0.16
		16-Aug-21	10:37:00 AM							
		08-Sep-21	2:04:00 PM	14.1	356.6	5.9	8.6	2.38		
		10-May-22	12:30:00 PM	10.8	385.7	11.7	8.56	7.15		0.42
		22-Jun-22	10:37:00 AM	14.4	326	12.9	8.88	13.9		0.19
		12-Jul-22	11:37:00 AM	15.5	321.3	9	8.3	5.05		0.1
		17-Aug-2022	12:24:00 PM	18.6	344.4	9.7	8.6	12.7		
D) creek flowing from Canal Flats		14-Jun-2020		8.5	341.0	8.4	7.8	2.01		
		23-Jul-2020		8.9	388.6	8.88	8	0.17		9.68
		27-Aug-2020	12:05:00 PM	8.8	385.3	9.68	7.8	0.47		8.22
		19-Sep-2020	1:40:00 PM	8.2	400.3	9.7	7.4	0.53		
		17-Jun-21	11:05:00 AM	8.5	404.5	15.2	7.9	0.7	<6.7	8.49
		12-Jul-21	11:31 AM	9.1	386.8	9.3	8.4	1.75		8.45
		16-Aug-21	12:00 PM	8.2	394	10.7	8.1	3.16		9.01
		10-May-22	11:31 AM	6.9	412.7	9.2	7.55	0.65		10
		22-Jun-22	9:47 AM	8.2	394	11.2	7.93	0.41		9.96
		12-Jul-22	12:23 PM	11.1	403.3	8.1	8.15	0.62		9.75
		17-Aug-22	1:05 PM	9.4	395.5	10.7	8.5	4		
E) Landsdowne Creek		07-Jul-21	1:30 PM	9.1	313.7	12.5	8.9	2.58		

Figure 14 – Stream Water Comparison - 2022



Water Temperature

The temperature tabulated in Table 4 show that the water temperature in each creek generally increases over the summer months from 7 to 13 degrees C. The coolest of the four creeks monitored is the creek that drains from Canal Flats. In this creek the temperature range is from 6.9 to 11 degrees C). These low temperatures are a consequence of the point of measurement being very close to the origin of the spring which we understand to be groundwater discharge from the Canal Flats area. The monitoring locations on all other streams are well down the drainage way from the stream's origins.

The warmest of the creeks is Marion Creek. In June of 2021, the water temperature of Marion Creek was measured as 21 degrees. When this measurement was scheduled to be made the flow in Marion Creek was so low that the flow rate could not be measured. We suspect that this higher temperature is due to ponded water in the creek bed. However, the creek flow returned by the end of June.

Specific Conductance

The lowest values for the specific conductance in the range of 141 to 225.7 uS/cm were measured in Dutch Creek: the stream with the greatest flow rate of the four that CLSS monitors. In contrast Hardie Creek provided specific conductance concentrations that were nearly 25% greater than either Marion Creek or the creek draining from Canal Flats. The specific conductance values in all creeks are much less than the Health Canada guideline (Table 1) of 700 uS/cm.

Dissolved oxygen

Dissolved oxygen concentrations were generally slightly greater than 8 pH units in all creeks except for Marion Creek in September when a pH value of 5.9 was measured. This low value is close to the limit set by Lake Windermere Ambassadors of 5 pH units (Table 1) and suggests that additional monitoring (more frequent) for the pH of Marion Creek should be considered to protect the aquatic habitat at the mouth of the creek on Columbia Lake.

pH

The pH values ranged from 7.40 to 8.40. These results show that the lowest pH value was measured in Canal Flats at the south end of the lake. The lower pH at this location may be attributed to acidity generated by the decay of organic materials within the surrounding marshy area.

Turbidity

For 2020 through 2022, the turbidity values measured on the creeks was generally in the range of 1.3 to 4.43 NTU's. Unusual values of 7.6 and 5.93 NTU's were measured in Dutch Creek on July 12, 2022, and an exception value of 39.5 on June 22, 2022. Turbidity values greater than 4.43 were measured on Marion Creek on June 17, 2021 and in 2022 of 7.17, 13.9, 5.05 and 12.5 between the May 10 and August 17 monitoring events. These values are greater than the value used by Health Canada for water quality guidelines and the range measure in Columbia Lake of less than 1 NTU's. Because much of the turbidity in fresh water is often attributed to aquatic growth, turbidity in these creeks should be continued to be monitored as resources permit more frequently in 2023.

Other parameters

Chloride is a parameter of concern since its primary source is human use of salts.

The concentrations of chloride measured at the four surface water sampling sites in 2023 ranged from less than 0.10 mg/L (the analytical detection limit to 9.96 mg/L. The greatest concentration was measured in the creek flowing from Canal Flats. The other three streams yielded chloride concentrations ranging from less than the analytical detection limit (Dutch Creek) to 0.48 (Hardie Creek).

4.0 Comparison to Nearby Lakes

Information on the water quality of five lakes (Columbia Lake, Lake Windermere, Moyie Lake north and south, Premier Lake, and Whiteswan Lake) is tabulated on Tables C-1 to C-5 of Appendix C. This water quality information was obtained by CLSS from BCMOE's database. The information consists of biannual water quality results for Columbia Lake, Lake Windermere and Moyie Lake collected by BCMOE from 2015 through to April 2022 (Tables C-1, C-2, and C-3 a and b). CLSS also obtained biannual monitoring results from Premier Lake and Whiteswan Lake for 2018, 2019, 2020 and April of 2022. (Tables C-4 and C-5). (We understand that 2018 was the first year that water quality monitoring was conducted on these two lakes.) In 2020 BCMOE collected and analyzed water quality samples from the five lakes in August only.

The tables in Appendix C were prepared by CLSS and not by BCMOE. Any transcription errors are the fault of CLSS.

These data provide a more extensive list of water quality parameters than those monitored in the CLSS annual program. Although an allowance for the differences in geologic setting between the five lakes must be made, this information provides a comparative measure of the water quality of Columbia Lake to the nearby lakes. When reviewing these data, it is important to appreciate that Moyie Lake is much deeper than either Lake Windermere or Columbia Lake. The data in Tables 5A and B is selected for comparable depths of Lake Moyie to that of Lake Windermere and Columbia Lake. Moyie Lake's depth (greater than 30 metres) suggests it may be prone to seasonal stratification and consequently dissolved salts and metals may be distributed differently than in either Lake Windermere or Columbia Lake. For example, when the concentration of conductivity between the five lakes is compared, we note that Moyie Lake concentrations are considerably less than the other lakes.

We cannot make a similar comment about Premier Lake or Whiteswan Lake because depths of these lakes are not known to us.

Tables 5 reduces the more extensive list of water quality parameters measured by BCMOE to the range in concentrations measured and contains only those parameters that in one or more lakes differ from the measurements made on the water samples collected from Columbia Lake. There are two parts to Table 5. Table 5A highlights in yellow those parameters that have a lower concentration range than that reported for Columbia Lake and Table 5B highlights in green those concentrations that have a greater concentration range than that reported for Columbia Lake.

A brief glance at Table 5A suggests that Columbia Lake and Lake Windermere share a similar water quality when compared to Moyie, Whiteswan, or Premier Lakes.

Table 5 - Comparison of Lake Concentrations 2022 (April)

A) Concentrations Measured are Less Than Those Measured in Columbia Lake

Parameter	Units	Columbia Lake Shallow (1 metre) min max	Columbia Lake Deep (4 metres) min max	Lake Windermere (shallow 1 m) min max	Lake Windermere (bottom 4 metres) min max	White Swan Lake min max	Premiere Lake min max	Moyle Lake South min max	Moyle Lake North min max
Chlorophyll a	ug/L	0.649	1.96	0.245	2.84	0.425	3.12	1.65	3.91
Field measurements									
Specific Conductance	uS/cm	290.9	349	239.4	412	248.6	288.9	47.2	58.2
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	8.08	10.9	6.92	11.6	8.87	10.9	7.61	12.05
Secchi Extinction depth	m	3.18	4.5	2.75	9.2	7.5	9.2	3.05	14.2
pH	pH	8.18	8.5	7.86	8.2	7.33	8.95	8.4	9.33
Temperature	OC	6.3	21	6.3	21	6.07	18.3	3.8	20.5
Turbidity	NTU	0.32	0.93	0.3	1.04	0.19	0.25	0.2	1.63
Anions									
Silica	mg/L	2.21	7.83	2.56	6.42	0.823	4.12	3.45	8.72
Orthophosphate (P)	mg/L	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.0015	0.0012	0.0012	0.0018	0.0017
Dissolved Sulphate (SO4)	mg/L	22.4	32	25	73.1	3.8	22.4	1.65	2.36
Dissolved Chloride (Cl)	mg/L	4.36	6.44	1.11	3.22	2.14	3	0.94	1.5
Calculated parameters									
Hardness	mg/L	145	193	115	224	138	145	19.3	27.2
Misc. Organics									
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	1.03	3.27	1.5	2.64	1.25	1.94	2.44	3.4
Nutrients									
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (Calc)	mg/L	0.164	0.308	0.122	0.228	0.07	0.121	0.089	0.185
Dissolved Phosphorus (P)	mg/L	0.002	0.0058	0.0021	0.0048	0.002	0.0061	0.0022	0.042
Nitrate plus nitrite (n)	mg/L	0.002	0.0032	0.0032	0.0195	0.0052	0.0052	0.0163	0.0445
Total Nitrogen (N)	mg/L	0.164	0.312	0.122	0.228	0.0035	0.121	0.094	0.228
Total Phosphorus (P)	mg/L	0.002	0.0183	0.0022	0.0087	0.0023	0.0037	0.0021	0.0086
Total metals by ICPMS									
Aluminium (Al)	ug/L	1.35	6.18	1.29	7.91	1.16	3.33	1.28	59.8
Antimony (Sb)	ug/L	0.054	0.085	0.049	0.073	0.081	0.107	0.062	0.071
Arsenic (As)	ug/L	0.0663	1.26	0.535	1.19	0.246	0.31	0.373	0.306
Barium (Ba)	ug/L	67.2	85.7	56.7	86.1	81.4	94.7	5.8	8.66
Boron (B)	ug/L	5.3	7.2	5.2	9.4	0	0	0	0
Cobalt (Co)	ug/L	0.015	0.0373	0.015	0.043	0.0094	0.0228	0.0137	0.022
Copper (Cu)	ug/L	0.131	0.423	0.123	0.403	0.097	1.38	0.076	0.97
Iron (Fe)	ug/L	2.2	18.8	8.7	43.7	1.2	4.6	1.1	3.5
Lead (Pb)	ug/L	0.008	0.0485	0.01	0.123	0.0062	0.024	0.00516	0.0469
Lithium (Li)	ug/L	2.52	3.4	1.58	3.8	1.09	1.27	2.7	2.97
Manganese (Mn)	ug/L	4.2	15.3	5.1	29	0.427	2.53	1.12	4.91
Molybdenum (Mo)	ug/L	0.488	0.614	0.515	0.717	0.654	0.723	0.078	0.097
Nickel (Ni)	ug/L	0.05	0.138	0.05	0.192	0.055	0.091	0.109	0.196
Selenium (Se)	ug/L	0.041	0.059	0.044	0.082	0.042	0.079	0.042	0.042
Silver (Ag)	ug/L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strontium (Sr)	ug/L	182	223	115	373	98.3	108	15.3	17.9
Thallium (Tl)	ug/L	0.0015	0.0025	0.0013	0.0057	<0.002	0.0074	0.0021	0.007
Uranium (U)	mg/L	0.661	1.06	0.02	1.47	0.43	0.517	0.0624	0.102
Vanadium (V)	mg/L	0.087	0.087	0.057	0.057	0	0	0	0
Zinc (Zn)	mg/L	0.47	1.31	0.21	3.02	0.17	1.82	3.45	13.8
Calcium (Ca)	mg/L	25.3	40.4	23	48.9	35	39.4	5.55	7.97
Magnesium (Mg)	mg/L	18.3	23.3	14	25.6	11.2	12.8	1.37	1.87
Potassium (K)	mg/L	0.703	0.84	0.151	1	0.291	0.354	0.439	0.634
Sodium (Na)	mg/L	4.89	6.79	2.01	4.81	0.106	2.64	1.49	1.92
Concentration range is less than measured in Columbia Lake									
Concentration range is greater than measured in Columbia Lake									

Table 5 - Comparison of Lake Concentrations 2022 (April)

B) Concentrations Measured are Greater Than Those Measured in Columbia Lake

Parameter	Units	Columbia Lake Shallow (1 meter)	Columbia Lake Deep (6 meters) *	Lake Windermere (shallow 1m)	Lake Windermere (bottom 4 meters) *	White Swan Lake	Premiere Lake	Moyle Lake South	Moyle Lake North
		min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max
Chlorophyll a	ug/L								
		0.649	1.96			0.425	3.12	1.65	3.91
Field measurements									
Specific Conductance	uS/cm	290.9	349	352		249.6	289.9	47.2	58.2
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	8.08	10.9		412	8.87	10.9	7.61	12.05
Secchi (Extinction depth)	m	3.18	4.5			7.5	9.2	3.05	6.4
pH		8.14	8.5	8.39	8.41	7.33	8.95	6.6	8.4
Temperature	OC	6.3	21			6.07	18.3	3.8	20.5
Turbidity	NTU	0.32	0.93	0.31	0.74	0.19	0.25	0.2	1.63
Anions									
Silica	mg/L	2.21	7.83	4.49		0.823	4.12	3.45	8.72
Orthophosphate (P)	mg/L	0.001	0.002	0.0012	<0.001	0.0012	0.0012	0.0018	0.0026
Dissolved Sulphate (SO4)	mg/L	22.4	32	31.5	70	3.8	22.4	24.1	2.36
Dissolved Chloride (Cl)	mg/L	4.36	6.44	5.69	3.17	2.14	3	0.94	1.5
Calculated parameters									
Hardness	mg/L	145	193	161		138	145	19.3	27.2
Misc. Organics									
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	1.03	3.27	2.08				2.44	3.4
Nutrients									
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (Calc)	mg/L	0.164	0.308	0.173		0.07	0.121	0.089	0.185
Dissolved Phosphorus (P)	mg/L	0.002	0.0058	<0.002	0.171	0.002	0.0061	0.0022	0.042
Nitrate plus nitrite (n)	mg/L	0.002	0.0032	<0.0032	0.002	0.0032	0.0052	0.0163	0.0445
Total Nitrogen (N)	mg/L	0.164	0.312	0.217	0.07	0.0035	0.121	0.094	0.228
Total Phosphorus (P)	mg/L	0.002	0.0183	0.0055	0.0049	0.0023	0.0037	0.0021	0.0086
Total metals by ICPMS									
Aluminium (Al)	ug/L	1.35	6.18			1.16	3.33	13	59.8
Antimony (Sb)	ug/L	0.054	0.085			0.081	0.107	0.034	0.071
Arsenic (As)	ug/L	0.0653	1.26			0.246	0.31	0.217	0.306
Barium (Ba)	ug/L	67.2	85.7			92.3	112	5.8	8.66
Boron (B)	ug/L	5.3	7.2			0	0	0	0
Cobalt (Co)	ug/L	0.015	0.0373			0.0094	0.0228	0.0206	0.063
Copper (Cu)	ug/L	0.131	0.423			0.097	1.38	0.548	2.36
Iron (Fe)	ug/L	2.2	18.8			1.2	4.6	1.1	61.3
Lead (Pb)	ug/L	0.008	0.0485			0.0062	0.024	0.0036	0.016
Lithium (Li)	ug/L	2.32	3.4			1.09	2.27	1.17	3.68
Manganese (Mn)	ug/L	4.2	13.3			0.427	2.53	2.45	4.91
Molybdenum (Mo)	ug/L	0.488	0.614			0.655	0.723	0.078	0.092
Nickel (Ni)	ug/L	0.05	0.138			0.035	0.091	0.109	0.133
Selenium (Se)	ug/L	0.04	0.059			0.042	0.079	0.042	0.046
Silver (Ag)	ug/L	0	0			0	0	0	0
Strontium (Sr)	ug/L	182	223			98.3	108	15.3	17.9
Thallium (Tl)	ug/L	0.0015	0.0025			<0.002	0.0074	0.0021	0.007
Uranium (U)	ug/L	0.461	1.06			0.43	0.517	0.0624	0.102
Vanadium (V)	ug/L	0.087	0.087			133	156	0	0
Zinc (Zn)	mg/L	0.47	1.31			0.2	2.17	3.45	13.8
Calcium (Ca)	mg/L	25.3	40.4			35	39.4	5.55	7.97
Magnesium (Mg)	mg/L	18.3	23.3			11.2	12.8	1.37	1.87
Potassium (K)	mg/L	0.703	0.84			0.291	0.354	0.439	0.618
Sodium (Na)	mg/L	4.89	6.79			0.106	2.64	1.49	1.92
Concentration range is less than measured in Columbia Lake									
Concentration range is greater than measured in Columbia Lake									

Specifically with respect to Table 5 A, we note that concentrations for conductivity, turbidity, hardness and the nutrients are greater in Columbia Lake and Lake Windermere than in the other three lakes. But of particular interest regarding Lake Windermere and Columbia Lake is that the concentration of chloride in Columbia Lake is a factor of two greater than in Lake Windermere. And when compared to the other lakes is a much greater difference. (Premier Lake has no detectable concentrations for chloride).

The concentrations for aluminum, antimony, barium, iron, lead, lithium, manganese, strontium, uranium, and sodium are noticeably less (a factor of two or more) than the concentrations measured by BCMOE in Columbia Lake. This comparison should not be inferred to suggest that Columbia Lake has water quality issues but merely to identify parameters that should be monitored more extensively for spatial differences within the lake and for increasing trends that may suggest the beginning of a water quality concern.

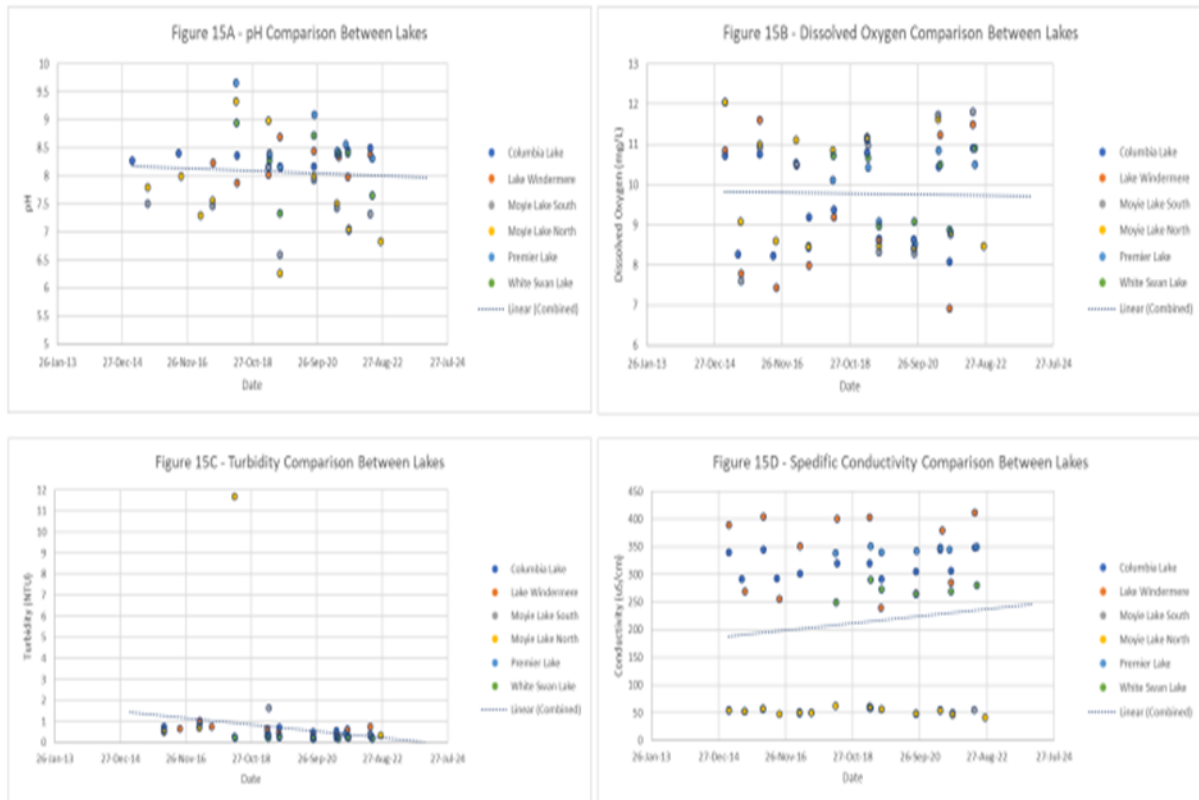
However, one exception to different geologic conditions that should be noted is the comparison of chloride concentrations. There are no naturally occurring sources for chloride in the rocks and soils surrounding any of these five lakes. The only source of chloride is man-made and therefore the greater concentration in Columbia Lake suggests that the lake experiences greater water quality affects from human activity than the other lakes. The greater concentration of sodium measured in Columbia Lake supports this suggestion because sodium chloride is a common salt used by people. Potential sources of chloride salts are wastewater, de-icing salts spread on roads and dust suppression salts used at larger industrial facilities.

CLSS has prepared a trend analysis of the concentrations measured for the indicator parameters pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and conductivity. These trends are plotted on Figures 14 A, B, C and D respectively. The plotted trend lines for pH and dissolved oxygen (Figures 14 A and B) have a slight slope suggesting that over the period the water quality information has been collected the concentrations of these two parameters remain unchanged.

The trend line for the turbidity concentrations however (Figure 14C), although slightly distorted to the high end of the range by an exceptional value for turbidity reported for Moyie Lake shows an overall declining concentration for turbidity among the five lakes. Because the major source of turbidity is algae growth, this trend suggests that shallow algae growth in the five lakes has declined overall. The exceptional value for turbidity reported for August will be confirmed in 2022.

The trend for specific conductivity for the five lakes shows an increasing trend (Figure 14 D). The trend line plotted on the figure includes Moyie Lake which has a much lower concentration than the other four lakes and may be an inappropriate contributor to this description. However, the overall trend for year to year increases in conductivity concentrations is noted for Columbia Lake and Lake Windermere. Specific conductivity is a measure of the dissolved salt contained in the water and is a parameter that needs to be monitored more diligently.

Figure 15 – Comparison of Lake Water Quality - 2022



5.0 Suggested Monitoring Program for 2023

The monitoring program undertaken over the past nine years on Columbia Lake has identified some noticeable differences in concentrations for the indicator parameters between the north and south ends of the lake. CLSS has observed that:

- During the summer months the turbidity concentration decreases. The turbidity concentration is similar from the south end to north end of the lake. A similar decline in values during the summer is observed for the pH and the dissolved oxygen concentrations.
- In contrast, the specific conductance concentrations increase over the summer months and are greater in the southern end of the lake.

- Turbidity and Total and Dissolved phosphorous concentrations from time to time exceed those established by CLSS as water quality standards for Columbia Lake.
- Further we note that some trends in concentration over the years from 2014 to 2020 were not observed in 2021 and 2022. Turbidity concentrations, for example, were observed to increase over the summer months in the earlier years, but not in 2022. Whether this is due to a change due to the hotter summer months in 2021 and 2022, or a change in water quality cannot be determined. Trends for the concentrations of other parameters are like those in other years.
- Profiles of concentrations for turbidity, specific conductivity and chloride along the lake at 14 monitoring locations illustrate the concentrations decline from south to north. Whether this trend is due to the inflow of different surface or groundwater sources from one end of the lake to the other cannot be determined. This survey was not completed in 2021 and only once in 2022 due to the limited resources of CLSS. However, CLSS intends to repeat the survey in 2023 as our funding allows. This survey will involve compiling profiles along the lake at the 14 locations: one profile will be undertaken in mid-June and the other in mid-August. The testing will involve measurements of dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, specific conductance, lake surface temperature and chloride.
- The concentrations of the elements and compounds differ between the four streams. Most noticeable are the differences in concentration of chloride with the creek draining from Canal Flats containing the greatest concentration of chloride. This difference may in part explain why the lake water to the south also yields greater concentrations of specific conductance and chloride.

In addition CLSS has been collecting total phosphorous, dissolved phosphorous and nitrate concentrations for several years. In 2023 we intend to examine these data for evidence that they are indicators of photosynthetic reactions in the lake water. For this evaluation and depending upon funding we may collect information on the total kjeldahl nitrogen and alkalinity.

Kjeldahl nitrogen is a measure of the organic nitrogen. Our monitoring program to date has not measured any total nitrogen concentrations greater than the analytical detection limit in the lake but if photosynthesis is occurring, we would expect to see changes in nitrogen concentration. We will add organic nitrogen (TKN) to our analyses to see if nitrogen concentrations differ from place to place.

Alkalinity will be added as a means of measuring changes in the dissolved carbon dioxide concentrations. Oxygen and carbon dioxide are by products of photosynthesis. Consequently, differences in alkalinity from place to place and time to time may be an indicator of algal growth.

Columbia Lake also contains different concentrations of chloride than the other four neighbouring lakes monitored each year by BCMOE. Although chloride is not the only element or compound that has a concentration different than that found in the other lakes, it is of concern because there are no natural soils or rocks that can contribute chloride to surface water or groundwater draining into the lake.

Therefore, CLSS intends to proceed in 2023 with a similar program to that undertaken in 2022. The program will include:

- The “Regular” program of bi-weekly measurements of temperature, lake depth, Secchi depths, turbidity, specific conductance, pH and dissolved oxygen at the four locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4).
- Chemical analyses during the regular program in late May and mid-July for total and dissolved phosphorous, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total nitrate, iron, manganese, alkalinity, hardness and chloride.
- Monitoring the distribution of temperature, turbidity, specific conductance and chloride on two occasions during the summer months (mid-July and mid-August).
- Monthly monitoring of the four creeks, Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the creek draining from Canal Flats for temperature, turbidity, specific conductance, pH and dissolved oxygen.
- Twice per year (spring and fall) analyses of the creek waters for nitrate, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total and dissolved phosphorous, iron, manganese, alkalinity, hardness, and chloride.

In addition, CLSS intends to add two locations to its bi-weekly and chemical analyses. One location will be at the mouth of Columbia Lake and the second will be north of the golf course in Fairmont. These locations will monitor the impact of the extensive use of this section of the river.

In 2023, CLSS also intends to support ecological inventories of the lake by undertaking a CABIN (Canadian Aquatic Biological Network) program as a further means of assessing the health of the lake. CABIN is a set of biological protocols to assess the quality of freshwater systems established by Environment Canada.

John Thomas Dance, MSc.

Appendix A

A-1 Monitoring parameters and their application to understanding water quality changes.

Note – these pages have been reproduced from another source.

What are the Parameters we Measure and Why are they Important

Ed. Note: The following is a brief description of the parameters that we measure and a comment on their importance. The description is intended to help us understand their relevance in the biological world. It is far from complete and indeed is not even original – most of the material is copied verbatim from two references:

<http://water.epa.gov/type/rsl/monitoring/yms50.cfm>

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wat/wq/wq_guidelines.html

Water Temperature

The rates of biological and chemical processes depend on temperature. Aquatic organisms from microbes to fish are dependent on certain temperature ranges for their optimal health. Optimal temperatures for fish depend on the species: some survive best in colder water, whereas others prefer warmer water. Benthic macroinvertebrates (*Ed. note -includes the immature stages of many flies, beetles, dragonflies, aquatic worms, snails, leeches, etc.*) are also sensitive to temperature and will move in the stream to find their optimal temperature. If temperatures are outside this optimal range for a prolonged period of time, organisms are stressed and can die.

For fish, there are two kinds of limiting temperatures the maximum temperature for short exposures and a weekly average temperature that varies according to the time of year and the life cycle stage of the fish species. Reproductive stages (spawning and embryo development) are the most sensitive stages. The following Table provides optimum temperature criteria for some local species.

Species	Incubation	Rearing	Spawning
Brown Trout	1.0-10.0	6.0-17.6	7.2-12.8
Cutthroat Trout	9.0-12.0	7.0-16.0	9.0-12.0
Rainbow Trout	10.0-12.0	16.0-18.0	10.0-15.5
Mountain Whitefish	less than 6.0	9.0-12.0	less than 6.0
Burbot	4.0-7.0	15.6-18.3	0.6-1.7

Temperature affects the oxygen content of the water (oxygen levels become lower as temperature increases); the rate of photosynthesis by aquatic plants; the metabolic rates of aquatic organisms; and the sensitivity of organisms to toxic wastes, parasites, and diseases.

Causes of temperature change include weather, removal of shading stream bank vegetation, impoundments (a body of water confined by a barrier, such as a dam), urban storm water, and groundwater inflows.

Phosphorus and Nitrogen

Both phosphorus and nitrogen are essential nutrients for the plants and animals that make up the aquatic food web. They are natural parts of aquatic ecosystems.

There are many sources of phosphorus, both natural and human. These include soil and rocks, wastewater treatment plants, runoff from fertilized lawns and cropland, failing septic systems, runoff from animal manure storage areas, disturbed land areas, drained wetlands, water treatment, and commercial cleaning preparations.

Nitrogen and phosphorus support the growth of algae and aquatic plants, which provide food and habitat for fish, shellfish and smaller organisms that live in water. But when too much nitrogen and phosphorus enter the environment - usually from a wide range of human activities - the water can become polluted. Nutrient pollution has impacted many rivers and lakes resulting in serious environmental and human health issues, and impacting the economy.

Too much nitrogen and phosphorus in the water causes algae to grow faster than ecosystems can handle. Significant increases in algae harm water quality, food resources and habitats, and decrease the oxygen that fish and other aquatic life need to survive. Large growths of algae are called algal blooms and they can severely reduce or eliminate oxygen in the water, leading to illnesses in fish and the death of large numbers of fish. Some algal blooms are harmful to humans because they produce elevated toxins and bacterial growth that can make people sick if they come into contact with polluted water, consume tainted fish or shellfish, or drink contaminated water.

Turbidity

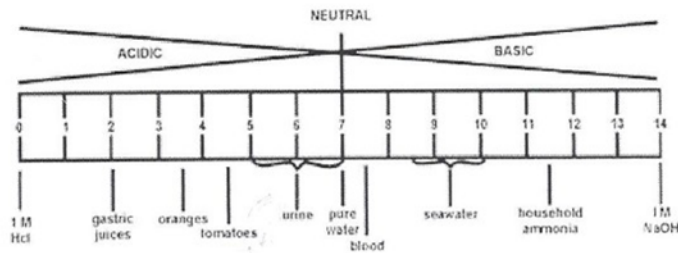
Turbidity is a measure of water clarity or more simply, how much the material suspended in water decreases the passage of light through the water. Suspended materials include soil particles (clay, silt, and sand), algae, plankton, microbes, and other substances. These materials are typically in the size range of 0.004 mm (clay) to 1.0 mm (sand). Turbidity can affect the color of the water.

Higher turbidity increases water temperatures because suspended particles absorb more heat. This, in turn, reduces the concentration of dissolved oxygen (DO) because warm water holds less DO than cold. Higher turbidity also reduces the amount of light penetrating the water, which reduces photosynthesis and the production of DO. Suspended materials can clog fish gills, reducing resistance to disease in fish, lowering growth rates, and affecting egg and larval development. As the particles settle, they can blanket the stream bottom, especially in slower waters, and smother fish eggs and benthic macroinvertebrates. Sources of turbidity include: Soil erosion, Waste discharge, Urban runoff, and Eroding stream banks.

Turbidity can be useful as an indicator of the effects of runoff from construction, agricultural practices, logging activity, discharges, and other sources. Turbidity often increases sharply during a rainfall, especially in developed watersheds, which typically have relatively high proportions of impervious surfaces. The flow of storm water runoff from impervious surfaces rapidly increases stream velocity, which increases the erosion rates of stream banks and channels. Turbidity can also rise sharply during dry weather if earth-disturbing activities are occurring in or near a stream without erosion control practices in place.

pH

pH is a term used to indicate the alkalinity or acidity of a substance as ranked on a scale from 1.0 to 14.0. Acidity increases as the pH gets lower. The following figure presents the pH of some common liquids.



pH affects many chemical and biological processes in the water. For example, different organisms flourish within different ranges of pH. The largest variety of aquatic animals prefers a range of 6.5-8.0. pH outside this range reduces the diversity in the stream because it stresses the physiological systems of most organisms and can reduce reproduction. Low pH can also allow toxic elements and compounds to become mobile and "available" for uptake by aquatic plants and animals. This can produce conditions that are toxic to aquatic life, particularly to sensitive species like rainbow trout. Changes in acidity can be caused by atmospheric deposition (acid rain), surrounding rock, and certain wastewater discharges.

The pH scale is logarithmic. A pH of 7.0 indicates a neutral condition. Distilled water has pH of 7.0. Below 7.0, the water is acidic. When the pH is above 7.0, the water is alkaline, or basic. Since the scale is logarithmic, a drop in the pH by 1.0 unit is equivalent to a 10-fold increase in acidity. So, a water sample with a pH of 5.0 is 10 times as acidic as one with a pH of 6.0, and pH 4.0 is 100 times as acidic as pH 6.0.

Conductivity

Conductivity is a measure of the ability of water to pass an electrical current. Conductivity in water is affected by the presence of inorganic dissolved solids such as chloride, nitrate, sulfate, and phosphate anions (ions that carry a negative charge) or sodium, magnesium, calcium, iron, and aluminum cations (ions that carry a positive charge). Organic compounds like oil, phenol, alcohol, and sugar do not conduct electrical current very well and therefore have a low conductivity when in water. Conductivity is also affected by temperature: the warmer the water, the higher the conductivity. For this reason, conductivity is reported as conductivity at 25 degrees Celsius (25 C).

Conductivity in streams and rivers is affected primarily by the geology of the area through which the water flows. Streams that run through areas with granite bedrock tend to have lower conductivity because granite is composed of more inert materials that do not ionize (dissolve into ionic components) when washed into the water. On the other hand, streams that run through areas with clay soils tend to have higher conductivity because of the presence of materials that ionize when washed into the water. Ground water inflows can have the same effects depending on the bedrock they flow through.

Discharges to streams can change the conductivity depending on their make-up. A failing sewage system would raise the conductivity because of the presence of chloride, phosphate, and nitrate; an oil spill would lower the conductivity.

Conductivity is measured in micromhos per centimeter ($\mu\text{mhos/cm}$). Distilled water has conductivity in the range of 0.5 to 3 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$. The conductivity of rivers in the United States generally ranges from 50 to 1500 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$. Studies of inland fresh waters indicate that streams supporting good mixed fisheries have a range between 150 and 500 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$. Conductivity outside this range could indicate that the water is not suitable for certain species of fish or macroinvertebrates. Industrial waters can range as high as 10,000 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$.

Appendix A-2 Historical Development of the Monitoring Program

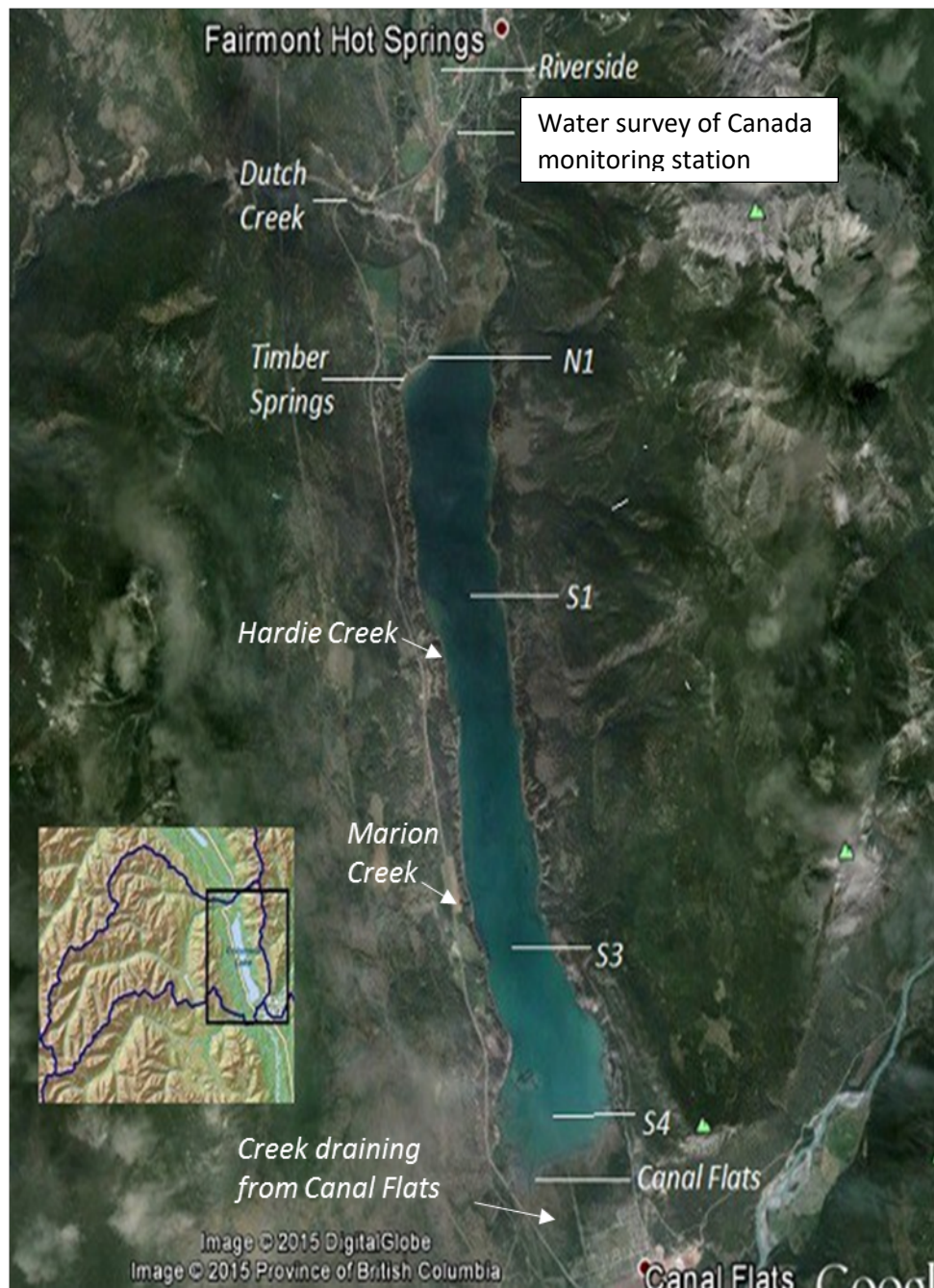
The water quality monitoring program on Columbia Lake was developed in response to recommendations contained in the Columbia Lake Management Strategy (Urbans Systems., 1997). The monitoring program began in 2014 and has continued while the lake is ice free until the present day. Since 2014 however several changes to the monitoring program have occurred. These changes are summarized chronologically as follows.

2014

Four stations for monitoring lake quality conditions were established by this initial program. These stations are referred to throughout this report as N1, S1, S3 and S4. The station locations are shown on Figure 1 and summarized from north to south along the lake as:

<u>Station location</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Easting</u>
N1	N50.28769	W115.87126
S1	N50.253929	W115.86256
S3	N50.20107	W115.84820
S4	N50.17533	W115.83442

Figure 1 – Monitoring Locations



Water quality monitoring in 2014 confirmed that the lake's condition was consistent with the nearly pristine conditions used as the basis of this management strategy.

2015

In 2015, two changes to the water quality monitoring program were made to better align the program with the management strategy. These changes were the location of two stations:

- Station S4 was moved 2.4 km north: and
- Station S3 was moved 1.7 km southward.

This new location for S4 placed the site in shallow water.

2016

On January 15, 2016, at location S1, a special investigation of the oxygen distribution in the lake was made by Tracy Flynn and Dave Hubbard. This special investigation has not been repeated in the ensuing years (2017 – 2020) but is brought forward here as a reminder of those factors potentially influencing the lake's water quality.

For that specific investigation, a hole was cut through the ice and the water temperature and dissolved oxygen concentrations with depth below the lake surface were measured using handheld instruments. Table 1 provides the dissolved oxygen depth profile measured during that investigation.

**Table 1: Water Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations:
S1, January 15, 2016**

Lake Depth (m below base ice)	Trial One		Trial Two	
	Temperature (deg C)	Dissolved oxygen (mg/l)	Temperature (deg C)	Dissolved oxygen (mg/l)
0	1.2	15.1	--	--
0.5	1.7	15.1	1.2	14.2
1	2.5	14.4	2.5	13.9
1.5	3.3	13.9	2.7	13.9
2	3.4	13.7	3.3	13
2.5	4.1	13.1	4	12
3	4.3	9.6	4.2	9.5
3.5	4.5	7	4.5	6.9
4	4.7	8.3	4.6	8.1
4.5	4.9	5.4	4.9	5.7
5	4.9	0.7	4.9	0.8

These data suggest two features about the probable dynamics of the lake and the photosynthetic processes in the lake. First, because water's maximum density occurs at 4° C, as the cold surface water,

produced from the ice (at 0°C), begins to warm up in the spring, it will sink through the water column and rest at the bottom of the lake. This “falling water” brings greater concentrations of dissolved oxygen from the lake’s surface into the deeper water to support growth of aquatic plants and improve fish habitat. As the shallow and denser water falls within the lake, it displaces the deeper less dense water on the bottom of the lake. The displaced water rises to the surface. The rising water brings with it suspended inorganic and organic particulates and increases the phosphate concentrations in the shallow water as observed in the water quality results described more fully in Section 3.1.7. Second, during the winter, input of oxygen due to wave action and inflow of surface water is minimal and therefore the oxygen concentration at shallow depth must be almost entirely due to photosynthetic processes (mostly micro-organisms and phytoplankton). As the water warms up, photosynthetic activity will increase and is the likely cause of the increases in turbidity observed in the early spring. The principal source of light to support photosynthesis is diffusion through the ice. This evidence that photosynthetic process continues over the winter months indicates the lake is healthy. In years of heavy snowfall, when the lake surface is snow covered and less sunlight diffuses through the ice, the dissolved oxygen content of the surface water might become depleted and may lead to a less healthy water body in the spring.

Additional changes to the program were made in 2016 following advice provided to CLSS volunteers at the Lake Keepers workshop sponsored by the BC Lake Stewardship Society and held in conjunction with the May 2016 Wings Over the Rockies event. At that workshop, it was learned that dissolved phosphorous might be a more useful indicator of the ecological health of the lake and of contributions to the lake from surface water inflow. Consequently, beginning with the May 2016 event, nitrate was removed from the chemical analysis and dissolved phosphorous was added. In addition, it was suggested that a more useful indicator of lake ecological health was the contrast between deep and shallow water quality. To make this determination, at the deepest sampling location (location S1) two water quality samples, one shallow (about 0.5 m below the water surface) and one deep (about 0.5 m above the bottom of the lake), were collected each month.

These findings and advice prompted CLSS to begin the annual monitoring program as soon as possible each spring to confirm the dissolved oxygen and total and dissolved phosphorous concentrations. The timing of this early monitoring event is largely controlled by the availability of boats provided by our volunteers.

2017

No changes to the monitoring program were made.

2018

During the summer of 2018, a CLSS board member (Mr. Ed Gillmor) compiled information on the groundwater conditions in the vicinity of the south end of Columbia Lake near the village of Canal Flats.

Canal Flats sits on a deposit of granular materials (predominantly sand and gravel) that infills the valley across the south end of Columbia Lake. The valley is confined between the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Purcell Mountains to the west. The Kootenay River flows through this valley to the south of the Village of Canal Flats. Residents of Canal Flats have described to CLSS members that water can be observed and heard to flow within some of the water wells used to provide potable water to the village.

Mr. Gillmor's compilation of the available information is provided in a report entitled "An Estimate of Groundwater's Contribution to Columbia Lake". That report is available on the CLSS website.

The report documents that there is a difference in water level between the Kootenay River and Columbia Lake of some 7 m with Columbia Lake lying at a lower elevation than the river. The river and the lake are approximately 1500 meters apart. Furthermore, this difference is relatively constant throughout the year. This finding indicates that a persistent hydraulic gradient exists from the river to the lake, suggesting that the lake is being supplied by water seeping into the lake from the Kootenay River.

This assessment of groundwater inflow at the south end of the lake and considering that there are no other significant streams flowing into the lake except for Dutch Creek at the north end prompted CLSS to consider whether the lake water changed from south to north. Over the summer months of 2018, a survey of conductivity and turbidity concentrations was undertaken by CLSS volunteers Gina Fryer and Lucas and Caesar Fuertes. Every two weeks during the summer of 2018, these volunteers measured conductivity and turbidity concentrations at fourteen locations along the lake (Figure 2). The results of this monitoring program are tabulated in Appendix D.

As CLSS reported in 2018, the results from this survey showed that the conductivity and turbidity concentrations decreased from the south end to the north end of the lake. The results confirmed that the water in the south end of the lake is influenced by the contribution of surface or ground water draining into the lake from Canal Flats.

2019

To confirm the differences in water quality along the lake found in 2018, the survey was repeated in 2019 with Chloride added to the analyses of water quality at the fourteen locations. That survey was undertaken on July 23, 2019.

Further, visual inspections of the outlets of small streams draining into the lake along the west side, showed that the shorelines had a different appearance that was associated with rust and black stained rocks. CLSS decided to initiate an evaluation of the water quality of streams draining into the lake. Over the summer of 2019, Dutch Creek, Hardie Creek, Marion Creek and the small stream draining from Canal Flats to the lake were monitored on four occasions. Testing was undertaken for specific conductance, temperature, turbidity, pH and chloride (on one occasion).

The stream sampling results showed noticeable differences in the quality of surface water between the four creeks.

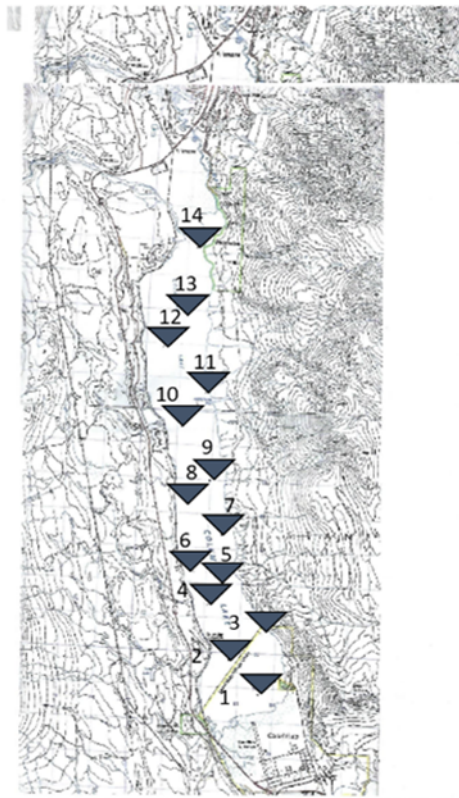
2020

In 2020, the monitoring program on Columbia Lake undertaken by CLSS involved:

- the "regular" monitoring program comprising approximately bi-weekly measurements of three types of information at the four locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4) along the lake shown on Figure 1:
 - Observations about cloud cover, water surface disturbance (waves), and air temperature,
 - Measurements of:

- the depth of water at each sampling locations,
 - the depth of clear water using the Secchi disk,
 - water temperature,
 - turbidity,
 - specific conductance,
 - pH,
 - dissolved oxygen, and
 - Two sets (May 28 and July 18) of chemical analyses on water samples from the lake for total and dissolved phosphorous as well as, Fe, Mn, hardness, alkalinity, and chloride added to the program for 2020 to help evaluate causes for turbidity increases during the summer months (growth of aquatic vegetation or disturbed bottom sediments.
- Collection of two sets (July 18 and August 18) of south to north measurements of turbidity, conductance, pH and chloride at the 14 locations along the lake shown on the following Figure 2, and
 - Four measurements of temperature, specific conductance, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and pH on
 - Dutch Creek on the northwest side of the bridge over highway 93,
 - Hardie Creek at the outfall to the lake on the Spirits Reach property,
 - Marion Creek at the outfall to the lake within the provincial picnic area, and
 - A small creek draining north from Canal Flats on the pathway (Figure 1).

Figure 2 – Location of Monitoring Points For Turbidity and Conductivity Measurements



Not to scale

2021

In 2021, the monitoring program on Columbia Lake undertaken by CLSS was for the most part unchanged from that conducted in 2020 and involved:

- the “regular” monitoring program comprising approximately bi-weekly measurements of three types of information at the four locations (N1, S1, S3 and S4) along the lake shown on Figure 1:
 - Observations about cloud cover, water surface disturbance (waves), and air temperature,
 - Measurements of:
 - the depth of water at each sampling locations,
 - the depth of clear water using the Secchi disk,
 - water temperature,
 - turbidity,
 - specific conductance,

- pH,
- dissolved oxygen, and
- Two sets (May 28 and July 18) of chemical analyses on water samples from the lake for total and dissolved phosphorous as well as, Fe, Mn, hardness, alkalinity, and chloride added to the program for 2020 to help evaluate causes for turbidity increases during the summer months (growth of aquatic vegetation or disturbed bottom sediment).

And

- Four measurements of temperature, specific conductance, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and pH on
 - Dutch Creek on the northwest side of the bridge over highway 93,
 - Hardie Creek at the outfall to the lake on the Spirits Reach property,
 - Marion Creek at the outfall to the lake within the provincial picnic area, and
 - The small creek draining north from Canal Flats on the pathway (Figure 1).

However, north south profiles at the fourteen locations along Columbia Lake for turbidity, specific conductance, pH and chloride were not completed. CLSS opted instead to collect this information every other monitoring year as funding allowed.

Appendix B

Spreadsheet of Collected Water Quality Information

We have provided an electronic version of the spreadsheet instead of reproducing a paper copy here. Several interested parties have asked for the data, and we expected the electronic data would be more useful. The spreadsheet is available on the CLSS website.

Appendix C

Water Quality Information for Columbia Lake, Lake
Windermere, Moyie Lake, Premiere Lake and White
Swan Lake

Table C-1 - Water Quality results for Columbia Lake Surface Samples

[illegible]

Appendix D – Water Quality Differences Along the Lake

D-1 2018 Summer Survey of the Distribution of Turbidity and Conductivity Concentrations Along Columbia Lake

Location (UTM NAD27)		Location# Date		Turbidity (NTU)perature (Cel)		conductivity (us/cm)
easting	northing	distance				
583559	5558877	0	1 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.34	20.9	259.7
582686	5559805	1274.09	2 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.98	21	260.3
583561	5560320	1443.00	3 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.55	20.7	252.8
582135	5561373	2873.64	4 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.29	20.9	252.1
582656	5561797	3056.44	5 Friday, July 13, 2018	2.72	20.7	251.7
581654	5562368	3976.95	6 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.23	20.7	247.7
582361	5563429	4707.01	7 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.26	20.7	246.5
581428	5564343	5866.71	8 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.09	20.9	245.8
581999	5565042	6359.31	9 Friday, July 13, 2018	0.97	20.9	245.6
581125	5566561	8060.29	10 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.14	20.7	232.6
581596	5567554	8896.27	11 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.04	21	237.3
580440	5568967	10561.07	12 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.24	20.6	221.1
581074	5569916	11315.24	13 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.02	20.7	217.2
581267	5570895	12234.61	14 Friday, July 13, 2018	1.18	21.2	218.6
11 U 583559E 5558877N	11 U 583559E 5558877N	0	1 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.92	21.5	262.5
11 U 582686E 5559805N	11 U 582686E 5559805N	1274.09	2 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.19	21.3	255
11 U 583561E 5560320N	11 U 583561E 5560320N	1443.00	3 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.89	21.4	256.8
11 U 582135E 5561373N	11 U 582135E 5561373N	2873.64	4 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.64	21.2	250.7
11 U 582656E 5561797N	11 U 582656E 5561797N	3056.44	5 Saturday, July 28, 2018	2.51	21.4	254.2
11 U 581654E 5562368N	11 U 581654E 5562368N	3976.95	6 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.48	21.3	249
11 U 582361E 5563429N	11 U 582361E 5563429N	4707.01	7 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.81	21.5	246.8
11 U 581428E 5564343N	11 U 581428E 5564343N	5866.71	8 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.18	21.4	249
11 U 581999E 5565042N	11 U 581999E 5565042N	6359.31	9 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.45	21.5	244.5
11 U 581125E 5566561N	11 U 581125E 5566561N	8060.29	10 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.17	21.5	234.7
11 U 581596E 5567554N	11 U 581596E 5567554N	8896.27	11 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.26	21.6	235.4
11 U 580440E 5568967N	11 U 580440E 5568967N	10561.07	12 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.03	21.6	223.8
11 U 581074E 5569916N	11 U 581074E 5569916N	11315.24	13 Saturday, July 28, 2018	1.69	21.7	222.6
11 U 581267E 5570895N	11 U 581267E 5570895N	12234.61	14 Saturday, July 28, 2018	0.92	21.7	210.3
11 U 583559E 5558877N	11 U 583559E 5558877N		1 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.55	18.8	236.4
11 U 582686E 5559805N	11 U 582686E 5559805N		2 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.61	19.7	242
11 U 583561E 5560320N	11 U 583561E 5560320N		3 Monday, August 13, 2018	3.33	19.2	243.7
11 U 582135E 5561373N	11 U 582135E 5561373N		4 Monday, August 13, 2018	3.23	20	246.7
11 U 582656E 5561797N	11 U 582656E 5561797N		5 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.61	20	246
11 U 581654E 5562368N	11 U 581654E 5562368N		6 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.39	20.1	247
11 U 582361E 5563429N	11 U 582361E 5563429N		7 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.11	20.5	236.4
11 U 581428E 5564343N	11 U 581428E 5564343N		8 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.37	20.5	244
11 U 581999E 5565042N	11 U 581999E 5565042N		9 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.38	20.6	231.1
11 U 581125E 5566561N	11 U 581125E 5566561N		10 Monday, August 13, 2018	1.59	20.1	233.1
11 U 581596E 5567554N	11 U 581596E 5567554N		11 Monday, August 13, 2018	1.45	20.6	216.3
11 U 580440E 5568967N	11 U 580440E 5568967N		12 Monday, August 13, 2018	2.35	20.8	219.5
11 U 581074E 5569916N	11 U 581074E 5569916N		13 Monday, August 13, 2018	1.47	20.6	222.7
11 U 581267E 5570895N	11 U 581267E 5570895N		14 Monday, August 13, 2018	1.48	19.6	208.4
11 U 583559E 5558877N	11 U 583559E 5558877N		1 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.68	19	229.6
11 U 582686E 5559805N	11 U 582686E 5559805N		2 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	2.34	18.9	243.5
11 U 583561E 5560320N	11 U 583561E 5560320N		3 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.45	18.4	244.5
11 U 582135E 5561373N	11 U 582135E 5561373N		4 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.01	19.3	241.1
11 U 582656E 5561797N	11 U 582656E 5561797N		5 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.87	18.9	240.5
11 U 581654E 5562368N	11 U 581654E 5562368N		6 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.74	19.5	240.3
11 U 582361E 5563429N	11 U 582361E 5563429N		7 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.01	19.3	236.7
11 U 581428E 5564343N	11 U 581428E 5564343N		8 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.93	19.7	237.8
11 U 581999E 5565042N	11 U 581999E 5565042N		9 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.09	19.7	235.7
11 U 581125E 5566561N	11 U 581125E 5566561N		10 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.88	19.9	224.5
11 U 581596E 5567554N	11 U 581596E 5567554N		11 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.89	19.8	219.3
11 U 580440E 5568967N	11 U 580440E 5568967N		12 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.87	20	215.9
11 U 581074E 5569916N	11 U 581074E 5569916N		13 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	1.32	20	215.5
11 U 581267E 5570895N	11 U 581267E 5570895N		14 Wednesday, August 22, 2018	0.83	19.6	210.6

D-2 Along the Lake Profiles for the Distribution of Temperature, and Concentrations of Turbidity, Specific Conductance and Chloride from South to North

Temperature and concentrations of turbidity, specific conductance and chloride were measured at fourteen locations along the lake on three occasions over the summer of 2020. These measurements are tabulated in Table D3 along with similar measurements made in 2018 and 2019. The graphs of these parameters are plotted on Figure 13.

These measurements demonstrate that temperature is relatively constant along the lake on any given measurement date. However, concentrations of turbidity, specific conductance and chloride all decrease from the south end of the lake to the north end of the lake.

Appendix E – Statistics for 2014 to 2020

This spreadsheet is saved on the CLSS website <http://columbialakess.com/>